



County of Marin Community Service Fund Program Application Form

Application Date March 30, 2018

Fiscal Year July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018

Organization Information

Full Legal Name: NatureBridge

Organization URL:

Mission/purpose of your organization:

Founded in 1971, NatureBridge fosters environmental literacy to sustain our planet. We are committed to educating youth in environmental sciences. We do this by connecting youth to the beauty, uniqueness, and fragility of our planet, particularly youth that require a champion to forge this connection.

Our environmental science programs happen in the world's best classrooms—our national parks. As the largest residential environmental education partner of the National Park Service (NPS), NatureBridge serves more than 30,000 K-12 students and teachers each year and offers programs in six national parks, including Golden Gate National Recreation Area. With the open skies of the Headlands, the sandy beach at Rodeo, and the muddy paths of Lagoon Trail as our “blackboards”, our Marin “classrooms” invite inquiry, wonder, and fun—and tranquility, especially important for young people bound to technology and living in loud urban environments. Lack of stimulation is the best stimulation.

Grant Request Information

Program/Project Name: NatureBridge, TEEM and Environmental Education

Amount Requested Dollar: \$10,000.00

Total Project Cost: \$115,000.00

Description of the proposed project/program, including the proposed project's goal(s), and the nature of the costs in specific terms, i.e. materials, labor costs, etc. Specifics of how the requested County funds will be used.

NatureBridge Golden Gate serves approximately 10,000 students from the Bay Area annually, including 1,100 from Marin County. Most significant, 300 of the Marin students come from schools that receive scholarship assistance from NatureBridge. Our multi-day environmental science education program allows students from under-resourced schools to engage in hands-on exploration while living for three-to-five days at Golden Gate. Our inquiry-based model focuses on the interconnections between the environment and students’ home communities and promotes environmental stewardship. At Golden Gate, we create geographically and environmentally relevant curriculum that complement regional weather trends and environmental challenges highlighted in the the Golden Gate National Recreation Area Climate Action Plan (see below).

Golden Gate is also home to the Teen Environmental Education Mentorship Program (TEEM), a year-long program for 18-20 underserved 10th-12th grade Bay Area teenagers: each year 6-8 TEEM participants come from Marin County. TEEM provides teens with the support and training they need to achieve their academic and personal goals. TEEM interns receive extensive leadership training with a NatureBridge environmental science educator as mentor, gaining work experience teaching elementary school students and designing science lessons. Throughout this process, interns receive stipends for their work, initiate service projects in their home communities, volunteer with partner organizations such as the National Park Service, and work one-on-one with their mentor to define and meet their leadership objectives. NatureBridge’s long-term goal for TEEM is to inspire and empower youth to make a difference in their home communities as the environmental leaders of tomorrow. A \$10,000 grant from Marin County will support transportation for Marin TEEM students and TEEM member engagement with students to create citizen science projects.

List of all community interests that will be affected by the proposed project/program and the public benefit to be derived from it:

Community Partnerships With Schools: NatureBridge’s connection to students begins with our relationship to their

school and communities, including families, teachers, and administrators. We develop particularly strong partnerships with teachers, involving them in the planning, design, and implementation of the program. Our goal is to serve 1,100 students from Marin County.

We provide schools with scholarship funding so that they can bring their students to Golden Gate. Four schools that we have worked with many times are Loma Verde Elementary School, North Bridge Academy, Olive Elementary, and Sir Francis Drake High School. This past year, we included 300 students from these schools and provided the schools with scholarship to attend our program. Without our scholarships, these schools would not be able to attend NatureBridge programs.

Community Partnership with National Park Service: Our strong partnership with the National Park Service has allowed us to grow to become the only residential educational partner operating in more than one national park. The Park Service provides in-kind donations of staff time, maintenance, and facilities at a reduced cost.

In 2017, the Marin County experienced a full range of extreme events: an atmospheric river caused widespread flooding; a heat dome covered the region bringing record-breaking temperatures; rare lightning strikes lit up the Bay Area sky; smog alerts were issued five days in August and September due to heat and smog from wildfires in Northern California; and a high-pressure ridge along the west coast blocked storms and brought unseasonably dry weather. A main focus of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area Climate Action Plan is to “Increase Climate Change Education and Outreach”; this is aligned with NatureBridge’s climate education objectives. The park is committed to better communicating climate change and, working together in the same space, NatureBridge will enhance the outcomes.

This organization has never received Community Service funds.

No County funding was received for this project or others.

Project/program can be completed if amount received is less than requested amount of Community Service funds.

Applicants are encouraged to leverage funding from other non-County sources, and priority will be given to requests that represent no more than 50% of total project cost. To demonstrate all sources of project funding, including other County sources, please provide a project/program budget below. Please fill in as applicable, and round to the nearest dollar.

Project Funding Sources	Funding Agency	Funding Requested	Received	Notes
County CSF	0	\$10,000	\$0	
Federal Grant				
State Grant		\$0		
Individual Contributions		\$35,000	\$35,000	
Other Local Agencies			\$0	
In kind services		\$5,000	\$5,000	
Other		\$65,000	\$65,000	<i>Foundation Funding</i>
Total Sources		\$115,000	\$105,000	
Project Expenses		Budgeted	Spent to Date	Notes
Personnel Costs		\$58,000	\$38,280	
Services and Supplies		\$45,000	\$29,700	
Capital		\$0		
Other		\$12,000	\$7,920	
Total Expenses		\$115,000	\$75,900	