Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development

Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)

Grant Recipient: Trailside Discovery **Federal Tax ID:** 23-7380045

Project Title: **Project Type:** Other

Alaska Center for the Environment - Trailside Discovery Mountain View Water and Watercraft Safety Program

State Funding Requested: $49,100 **House District:** Anchorage Areawide (16-32)

Future Funding May Be Requested

Brief Project Description:

Trailside Discovery Camp (TDC) seeks funding for the purchase of water safety curriculum, watercraft and a 15 passenger van to offer a water safety, and water craft programs this summer to the Boys & Girls Club in Mountain View. Funding will enable TDC to purchase safe, quality equipment that will be instrumental in getting this exciting new program up and running.

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	$60,000
Funding Already Secured:	($10,900)
FY2013 State Funding Request:	($49,100)
Project Deficit:	$0

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

In 2011, Trailside Discovery Camp (TDC) began broadening its scope by bringing two outdoor education staff directly to the Boys & Girls Club in Mountain View. The pilot program began last summer at the B&G Clubhouse, where children were able to participate in hands-on lessons in the outdoor classroom surrounding the club house. The popularity of this program has lead to the development of the water safety watercraft concept, which will be introduced for the summer of 2012 and will be available to all children of the B&G Club.

Trailside Discovery Camp's Water Safety, and watercraft program will bring water safety education and water craft outdoor recreation into the B&G club house next summer to reach children who might not have access to these experiences. Classes are all designed with learning objectives to support Alaska Boating Safety Program, the American Sailing Association standards of water safety, and follow American Camp Association standards of operation

Program Goals:

- Develop student awareness, understanding and appreciation for Alaska's cold water and the hazards it presents.
- Develop student awareness of the importance of wearing life jackets while on a boat or around the water.
- Provide students with the skills necessary for proper selection and use of life jackets.
- Encourage safe and responsible behavior when on a boat or participating in outdoor water-related activities.
- The program seeks to boost participants' confidence in their outdoorskills,develop healthy exercise habits,and foster outdoor pursuits.

For use by Co-chair Staff Only:

$49,100 Approved

3:19 PM 5/2/2012

Contact Name: Kendra Kloster
Contact Number: 465-6259

This program is an important step toward increasing the number of children in Anchorage who are exposed to water safety and watercraft programs and outdoor education. While Trailside Discovery's current camp programs provide excellent opportunities for the children it serves, not all children in Anchorage are able to participate or have families who can provide outdoor recreational opportunities. By bringing the programs into the Boys & Girls Club in Mountain View, Trailside will be able to introduce hundreds of children to water safety and watercraft activities which will foster an excitement for outdoor adventures. Numerous studies have shown that Anchorage children are struggling with obesity. While this city is home to countless outdoor recreation opportunities, if children are not exposed to these activities by their parents, they might never have the chance to learn about them. The lessons they learn in the Trailside water safety and watercraft program will expose them to outdoor and recreation skills and outdoor adventure values that they will be able to use to make healthy choices as they grow into adults.

Trailside Discovery Camp has broad community support for this project and the expansion of its summer programs to include a water safety and watercraft component which will further expand and enhance the programs that are offered at the Boys & Girls Clubhouse. The Mountain View Community Council, Boys & Girls Club and The Anchorage sailing club have all provided letters of support for this program.

A unique opportunity exists to provide a program for Anchorage children, unlike any other offered in the district. At this very moment the bond is breaking between the young and the natural world, and a growing body of research links mental, physical, and spiritual health directly to our interactions with the out doors. Through this program we will reunite the children of Anchorage with the natural world and help them to gain an understanding and appreciation that will inspire them to spend more time outside and active. By supporting this program in its early stages, the state will play a key role in promoting healthy lifestyles, developing outdoors skills and fostering a sense of outdoor adventure in the youth of Anchorage.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal.

Project Timeline:

Ther program will commence in July 1st through August 10th this summer at the Boys & Girls Club Program in Mountian View.

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

Trailside Discovery Camp

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name:	Thomas Burek
Title:	Trailside Discovery Director
Address:	807 G. St. Suite 100
	Anchorage, Alaska 99501
Phone Number:	(907)274-5437
Email:	trailside@akcenter.org

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? [X] Yes [ ] No

For use by Co-chair Staff Only:

3:19 PM 5/2/2012

Contact Name: Kendra Kloster
Contact Number: 465-6259

Submitted by: Trailside Discovery Camp - Thomas Burek

For reading:

Anchorage, Alaska
AR No. 001-2012

A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR A KIDS DON'T FLOAT, KAYAKING & SAILING PROGRAM TO BE HELD AT THE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB IN MOUNTAIN VIEW FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THE CHILDREN INVOLVED IN THE MOUNTIAN VIEW COMMUNITY IN ANCHORAGE.

WHEREAS, a major goal of the 2012 Mountain View Community council, a community-supported group that is dedicated to the future of the community, is to encourage a new generation of children to become involved in the outdoors through healthy activities that include water craft & water safety programs in a safe environment.

WHEREAS, there is currently not a water safety, kayaking & sailing program at the Boys & Girls Club for grade school children, and middle school children.

WHEREAS, Trailside Discover Camp is focused on a generational renewal of re-igniting innate sense of spending time outdoors in a healthy and safe manner, which will include a water safety program, kayaking, and sailing program.

WHEREAS, Trailside Discovery Camp provides powerful, out-of-school learning experiences and the water safety, sailing & kayaking program will be an opportunity for youth to have hands on experiences, and interested based learning, to strengthen their creativity and critical thinking skills; and

WHEREAS, *Trailside Discovery Camp* will engage young people in experiential education through the use of water safety courses, sailing, and kayaking, while also utilizing social and emotional learning skills such as group initiatives, role play and communication skill building exercises —to improve participation in building their community, helping each other with challenges, and developing friendships that extend beyond the walls of their individual schools;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved,

That the Mountain View Community Council recognizes and supports the Trailside Discovery Camp, water safety, kayaking, and sailing program and the impact it will have on a new generation of children in the Mountain View community, city and all its citizens:

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Mountain View Community Council this 9th day of Jan, 2012.

Don Crandall

Don Crandall President - Chairperson

ATTEST:

Mountain View Community Council

January 26,2012

To Whom It May Concern:

During the summer of 2011, Trailside Discovery dedicated two staff members to facilitate programs and activities at the Mt. View Community Center Boys & Girls Club. This collaboration offered the youth of Mt. View an opportunity to explore, discover and experience outdoor Alaska. The Trailside Discovery staff provided daily educational lessons about plants and wildlife, vast outdoor exploring opportunities and guided them on numerous field trips to experience first-hand, our beautiful state.

We are planning on continuing this relationship for the summer of 2012. In an effort to provide even more opportunities to the members of the Mt. View Boys & Girls Club, we would like to introduce water safety and watercraft programs. Trailside Discovery staff will perform a series of educational presentations on the importance of being safe in and around water. Water safety is a subject many of our youth may not otherwise be exposed to. We feel that providing them with an opportunity early in life to have a fun, safe and positive experience on the water will provide years of future enjoyment.

Sincerely,

David Barney
Manager
Mt. View Community Center
Boys & Girls Club

Main Office
2300 W. 36th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99517
Tel: 907-248-5437
Fax: 907-249-5479
www.bgcalaska.org
Facebook: Boys & Girls Clubs - Alaska

Chief Executive Officer
Alana Humphrey
Tel: 907-770-7349
Fax: 907-770-7345
ahumphrey@bgcalaska.org

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Trailside Discovery

807 G Street, Suite 100, Anchorage, Alaska 99501 (907) 274-5437 Fax (907) 274-8733
Email: trailside@akcenter.org

To whom it may concern:

Established in 1982, Trailside Discovery began as a small camp of 250 students at Alaska Pacific University. The camp is now the largest outdoor education and adventure camp in Alaska and is located at the Campbell Creek Science Center in south Anchorage, on 740 acres of pristine wilderness. In the 2005 summer session, 1700 children, ages 4 -17, slogged through bogs, explored forests, treaded gently across trails, and learned about nature while being immersed in it. In addition to the summer programs, Trailside also offers a winter programs in December and March to coincide with the school district winter and spring break schedules.

The mission of the camp is to provide a broad range of outdoor education experiences for students of all ages and from all economic, social, and cultural backgrounds. Trailside Discovery offer campers a challenging, fun, and unique program based on the philosophy that the natural environment is an ideal site for community based learning. The Trailside Discovery experience provides children with nature-based opportunities, and assists them in developing the attributes that will later enable them to work alongside others in a non-adversarial and mutually beneficial fashion.

In addition to learning about science and nature, and developing leadership skills, campers also learn about stewardship. Service projects are a key piece of each camp program- in the past two years campers and staff have put in 1,000 hours of work on stewardship projects at the Campbell Creek Science Center, where the camp is housed. Campers have demonstrated that youth like to feel as though they are making a positive impact in their worlds, so campers spend a short part of each day planting trees, engaging in trail maintenance, or working on a stream bed erosion project. Even the youngest campers participate by watering the grounds and picking up litter.

Trailside Discovery creates an atmosphere that is conducive to expanding interest, appreciation, and knowledge of the outdoors. Natural science, history, outdoor skills and leadership are all emphasized. Trailside is a leader of youth development in the community, and we are willing to assist youth in becoming successful members of society. We strive to get all kids outdoors, and connected with nature. Trailside is proud to be a part of the Boys & Girls club of Mountain View, and excited to offer a water safety & watercraft program at the clubhouse.

Sincerely

Thomas Burek

Thomas Burek

Trailside Discovery, Director

Mile 8.2 South Big Lake Road
Big Lake, «Address» 99652

February 2, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

The Alaska Sailing Club (ASC) is a 501(c)(3) with a mission to support sailing education, racing and water safety. Our club has been in continuous operation since 1967. We have an large and growing membership and each summer we have an active adult education, racing and outreach program.

We have a strong history of partnering with other non-profits to advance our mission. As part of our community outreach program we have partnered with the Girl Scouts, Camp Fire, Challenge Alaska, Covenant House and the Wounded Warriors program to teach sailing and provide a unique Alaskan outdoor experience.

We are strongly committed to supporting Trailside Discovery Camp's plan to offer a youth sailing camp. As part of this support we will offer long-term access to our facilities, on-shore technical support during camps and ongoing maintenance of Trailside Discovery Camp boats.

If you have any questions regarding the Alaska Sailing Club or our relationship with Trailside Discovery Camp please don't hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely yours,

Bruce Lee
Commodore, Alaska Sailing Club

(907) 244-4380
bruce.lee@alaska.com