

Response Summary:

2023 Ohio 4-H Foundation Grant Application

Due: October 26, 2022 at 11:59 p.m.

Q2. Grant and applicant information

Title of Grant	Ohio Military Kids Camp Programs
Total Funds Requested	\$10,000
Primary Applicant Name & Title	Justin Bower, State Educator, Healthy Living & Ohio Military Kids
County	State 4-H Office
Applicant's Email	bower.183@osu.edu
Applicant's Phone	614-247-1979
Names of persons collaborating on grant	Theresa Ferrari, Ohio National Guard youth program staff
Name of Direct Supervisor	Hannah Epley
Direct Supervisor's Email	epley.24@osu.edu

Q14. Provide a brief 3-sentence description of the project. This should be written as if the person reading the application has no knowledge of the project.

Ohio 4-H works with the Ohio National Guard to carry out Camp Kelleys Island, a 5-day camp for teens and youth in military families; in 2023 Camp Kelleys Island will be two consecutive weeks in July and August, one week for teens and one week for youth. Camps feature typical camp activities such as canoeing, crafts, and campfires, as well as offering fun ways to experience military culture. The consistent feedback from past camps is that attending camps creates enduring connections.

Q3. Please describe in detail the project for which you are seeking funding. Include your goals and objectives as well as the plan for achieving and evaluating them. Please be sure to indicate how this project impacts the 4-H program and/or 4-H youth.

Camp Kelleys Island is the longest running and largest program offered by Ohio Military Kids. The first camp was held in 2005; 2023 will be the 17th camp due to a 2-year pause during the pandemic. Beginning in 2022, because Camp Patmos was no longer available for our use, Ohio Military Kids Camp Kelleys Island residential camp was run as two consecutive weeks, one week for teens aged 12 to 15 and one for youth aged 9 to 11, both held at the Erie County 4-H Camp on Kelleys Island.

Goal: Desired program goals include providing opportunities for youth experiencing life in a military family and the deployment cycle to develop personal and interpersonal skills. Camp programs are built around a framework of developing resilience. Camp provides a way to bring together those who share a common experience, which is helpful in light of the isolation that military youth often experience. Ohio Military Kids has the secondary goal of developing military youth's leadership skills as camp counselors.

Objectives:

1. Offer a five-day residential 4-H camp for military youth.
2. Give military youth the opportunity to come together in a fun environment, learn from each other, and forge new relationships.
3. Develop personal and interpersonal skills.
4. Develop leadership skills in 4-H and military teens who serve as camp counselors.

In 2023, OMK Teen Camp will be held from July 30–August 3, and OMK Youth Camp will be from August 6–10. Counselors arrive 2 days before for on-site training. Along with staff members of the Ohio National Guard, we will plan, conduct, and evaluate the Ohio Military Kids Camp Kelleys Island program. Camp planning takes place throughout the year, and it draws on the best of both the 4-H and military worlds. Camp programs feature typical camp activities such as canoeing, crafts, and campfires, as well as offering fun ways to experience military culture. Each year a theme is selected that helps guide the programming. Regardless of the theme, we ensure that best practices for camp and risk management and the essential elements of a positive youth development experience are taken into consideration. Extension has a vital role to play in meeting the needs of military families and can do this through programs such as OMK. Ohio is known as a leader in camping and specifically in camps for military youth and families. The camp format is one that has been successful in reaching military youth, and therefore we want to continue it. Because camping is one of the hallmarks of the 4-H program, this delivery method was a natural one to use to reach the military audience. The camp provides an excellent opportunity for youth from military families to meet others in the same situation, gain independence, and build resilience thereby reducing the negative impact of a family members' deployment.

Evaluation: To ensure that we have met the goals, we use a brief survey at the end of camp. Additionally, we solicit input from camp counselors through an online survey approximately a month after camp. This provides us with helpful feedback from the counselors' perspective. Finally, we have a meeting of those involved in leadership position in conducting the camp program to do an after-action review, discussing what worked well and should be sustained and what could be improved.

Q4. What resource materials will be created (if any)? How will they be shared with others if they'd like to replicate this program?

The training schedule, camp schedule, activities, and evaluation materials can be shared with others who conduct camp programs. We share the results of this project with stakeholders in a variety of ways, including reports, a feature story for Ohio 4-H Highlights, and social media reports.

Q5. Describe the level of need in your community for the project you have selected. Please be sure to include information about the target audience to be served. (i.e., how many individuals will benefit, ages, gender, etc.)

Target Audience: This camp will reach approximately 240 military youth ages 9 to 15. In addition, 75 4-H members and military youth, many of whom were former campers, will be recruited and trained as camp counselors. The camp proposed here will be open to any youth with a parent currently serving in the military or retired within the last year. Campers will be recruited from across the state. We expect to have approximately equal numbers of boys and girls as campers and that they will represent all branches of the service.

Level of Need: Since 9/11, deployments have occurred at an unprecedented rate, and many families have experienced multiple deployments. Military youth do not respond to deployment in the same way. The challenges presented by a parent's deployment can place military youth at risk for negative outcomes. Reserve component families are particularly affected because they may have less access to resources and social support and thus may have unique needs.

Extension programs can respond to these needs.

Attending camp has been linked to positive outcomes including growth in self-esteem, social skills, positive behaviors and attitudes, physical abilities, and creative thinking. Camps can create a supportive environment that allows youth to take risks, try new things, and become more confident. The positive youth development outcomes derived from camp participation align with those desired for military youth who are coping with the negative aspects of deployment.

Previous studies of camps for military youth have found that camp reduced participants' stress level. Campers have improved their communication, coping, and social skills. The biggest benefit of attending camp has been the connections built with other youth. These "condition-specific" camps may offer certain benefits not offered by attending camps with a broad range of participants. Overall, campers express satisfaction with their camp experience. The consistent feedback from past camps is that attending camps creates enduring connections.

The experience of attending camp can foster resilience. Several years ago we interviewed youth who had long-term involvement with OMK programs. They expressed how this participation benefitted them. They noted they formed close, family-like relationships that served as a support system through the challenges of military life. Their involvement created a desire to give back as a camp counselor. This increased leadership role further contributed to their skill development and growth.

Q6. Outline (or attach in the next question) your detailed project budget including income sources, in-kind contributions and categories of expenditures. Please be as specific as possible.

Attached

Q7. Outline (or attach in the next question) your detailed project budget including income sources, in-kind contributions and categories of expenditures. Please be as specific as possible.

[\[Click here\]](#)

Q8. Have you received previous funding for this program? How will you sustain programming after the 4-H Foundation grant ends?

We are very appreciative that the Ohio 4-H Foundation is the longest-running donor to OMK, having provided funding in since this program's inception in 2005. The initial enrollment of 81 has tripled and the number of camp counselors has increased as well.

2020 - \$5,000 (deferred until 2022)

2019 - \$6,000

2018 - \$5,500

2017 - \$5,500

2016 - \$2,500

2015 - \$9,500 (\$2,500 + \$7,000 in Round 2)

2014 - \$2,500

2013 - \$2,500

2012 - \$5,000

2011 - \$2,500

2010 - \$5,000

2009 - \$5,000

2008 - \$3,500

2007 - \$5,000

2006 - \$5,000

2005 - \$5,000

OMK has developed a strong funding base of donations and grants that are used to fund our programs. However, because we did not have camp for 2 years, our donations have decreased. We continue to explore possible funding sources and provide stewardship to our current donors so they will continue to give at the same or increased levels. Between 2009 and 2014 we applied for and received a camp grant for \$50,000. However, this grant has been discontinued. The loss of this grant represented a significant shortfall to our budget. Consequently, in 2015 we increased our Camp Kelleys Island funding request to the USO of Central and Southern Ohio. After many years of success, we want to continue offering Camp Kelleys Island, which we consider our signature program. In addition to Camp Kelleys Island, we also continue to conduct additional programming events that also depend on outside funding sources: a teen residential camp, three family camps, and an annual holiday event.

Q15. How will this program be evaluated?

The following questions will be used to evaluate the camp. This ensures that we have met the goals we have established and is not time consuming for campers to complete.

1. I learned new skills.
2. I learned how to be more independent.
3. I had fun at camp.
4. I pushed myself to try something new.
5. I made new friends.
6. I felt proud to be a military kid.
7. I felt safe at camp.
8. I felt part of my cabin group.
9. I felt like I could share my opinions.
10. I felt like I could talk to my counselors about any problems.
11. I felt like my counselors paid attention to me.
12. My counselors treated me with respect.
13. The staff and volunteers treated me with respect.

Additionally, we solicit input from camp counselors through an online survey approximately a month after camp. This provides us with helpful feedback from the counselors' perspective. Finally, we have a meeting of those involved in leadership position in conducting the camp program to do an after-action review, discussing what worked well and should be sustained and what could be improved.

Q9. Project timeframe: Specifically state the expected dates or months the project will begin and end.

January 2023– Camp planning meetings, camp counselor recruitment and interviews
February 2023 – Camp planning meetings, camp counselor recruitment and interviews; camp publicity
March 2023 – Camp planning meetings, camp counselor recruitment and interviews; launch camp registration
April 2023 – Camp planning meetings, camp counselor recruitment and interviews
May 2023 – Camp planning, camp counselor recruitment & interviews (as needed)
June 2023 – Camp planning meetings (weekly), 1-day camp counselor training, purchase supplies
July 2023 – Final camp planning, purchase supplies, camp counselor training (July 28–30), Teen Camp begins (July 30)
August 2023 – Teen Camp continues (July 30–August 3), camp counselor training (August 4–6), Youth Camp (August 6–10)
September 2023 – Camp counselor evaluations and staff meeting
October 2023 – Compile camp evaluations
November 2023 – Draft report
December 2023 – Final counselor meeting; complete report

Letter of Acceptance and Agreement

Grant Guidelines:

1. All grants are for the calendar year specified.
2. Grant requests are expected to be at least \$1,000 and no more than \$10,000.
3. Grants may only be requested by 4-H educators we do not accept 4-H club grants. Multiple submissions from the same county or program must be ranked in order of importance.
4. Food and apparel requests must be part of a larger educational effort.
5. It is recommended that the grantee show in-kind or cost share in the grant application budget. It can show in-kind donations; financial support from their county, committees; or partners in their local community.
6. Your application, a detailed budget and the letter of acceptance and agreement must all be submitted or the application will not be accepted.
7. Deadline extensions are rare, and should be requested to the Foundation Manager via email.
8. Impact Reports are due 60 days after the completion of the project.
9. Impact Reports provide a summary of the grant and what was accomplished. The report should tell: who, what, where, why and how of the project and provide details of the outcomes. Photos are required. The amount spent on the grant that is reported on the Impact Report should agree with your Workday reports for your FD510 GF605354. A copy of the reports must be attached to this report.
10. If there are unused funds in excess of 20%, they must be returned to the Ohio 4-H Foundation at the completion of the program.

Program Activities: All program activities will be performed as detailed and budgeted in the grant proposal, as presented and accepted by the Ohio 4-H Foundation.

2022 4-H Priorities: Although the Ohio 4-H Foundation is open to all requests each year, specific Ohio 4-H priorities will be chosen annually. For the 2022 grant cycle, the following categories will be given priority: career awareness and workforce preparation, retention of current volunteers and older teens, and recruitment of 1st generation 4-H'ers and 4-H alumni as volunteers.

Budget: If there are any unused grant funds, a plan of how those funds will be used needs to be sent to the Ohio 4-H Foundation for review and approval. If the unused funds are in excess of 20%, they must be returned to the Ohio 4-H Foundation at the completion of the program.

Q11. By signing below, I understand that failure to meet these requirements may result in the disqualification of future grant opportunities from the Ohio 4-H Foundation for the next 5 years.

[\[Click here\]](#)

Q12. Applicant Information

County	State 4-H Office
Date	October 26, 2022

Q13. Per guideline 3: This grant is ranked _____ out of _____ grants submitted.

2 out of 2

Embedded Data:

N/A