

Proposal

Background: Concisely describe the background of the request.

In 2016, Thrive served more than 7,000 individuals in Gallatin County through our programs with mentoring, education and support. Since 1986, Thrive has been fundamentally changing the way communities support families and enhancing the quality of life in Southwest Montana. Our mission is to help all children have the opportunity to grow, succeed and become valuable members of their community. Thrive has designed five signature programs that engage parents and empower children. We look to companies such as ASMSU to help meet the growing demand for our programming and services. Based on our conversation, I have prepared a proposal regarding a program sponsorship of the CAP program for you to review.

The CAP Program matches community volunteers in the Bozeman and Big Sky Public Schools with children grades K-12. These mentors work one-on-one with children to increase academic and social competency and to enhance opportunities for academic challenge. They provide support and encouragement, help students discover and build upon their individual strengths, and affirm student's abilities to shape their own futures. Mentors are screened, trained and supervised by CAP Coordinators. Thrive's locally designed CAP Program is now posted on the National Registry of Evidence Based Programs and Practices as an evidence based program. As a result, Thrive receives calls from across the nation asking to replicate the program in other communities.

As the Bozeman community continues to grow, so does the demand for the CAP Program's services. During the 2016-2107 school year, the Bozeman and Big Sky CAP Program had 625 matches, 613 volunteers served 9,741 hours and Thrive provided 13 mentor trainings for new and existing volunteers. These program numbers show an increase across the board from the 2015-2016 school year. We anticipate this trend of upward growth to continue in the 2017-2018.

Montana State University plays an important role in our CAP program. Currently, 40% of our mentors are students attending Montana State University. MSU students are critical to the success of CAP and we would not be able to match the over 600 mentees without their volunteer efforts.

Request: Outline and justify the item(s) to be purchased or the amount of funding needed.

Recently, we received notice that we can expect significant funding cuts for our CAP program from the Bozeman School District. We are looking to our existing supporters to help sustain this critical program as we experience these funding gaps. We would like to ask ASMSU to consider a sponsorship of the CAP program for the 2017-18 school year. If appropriate, we would like to request a sponsorship of \$2500. Your investment in the CAP program will have tremendous impact on our ability to provide support to children in our community. Together we can ensure that every child has the opportunity to succeed at home, at school and in life.

Impact and Implementation: Please detail the impact to the program(s) or student constituencies the request will benefit, lifetime of item(s) to be purchased, as well as who is responsible for overseeing the use of the funds, if approved.

These are a few of the current statistics:

- 87% of students report having a better attitude towards school after participating in CAP
- Over the past 3 years, 83% of CAP students missed less than 10 days of school a year, helping to achieve a strategic goal of BSD7
- Special education, minority and low income students with CAP mentors scored an average of 7.5% higher on standardized reading tests
- 99% of teachers reported "the CAP Program was successful in helping students achieve established goals"
- 99% of students K-3 grade reported that their CAP mentor "really cared" about them
- 95% of students K-3 reported that their mentors helped them to like school more