



City of Apache Junction
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
Request for Financial Assistance



Application Cover Sheet

Name of Agency: Boys & Girls Clubs of the Valley (BGCAZ)

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Project: Out of School Time Programs for Apache Junction Youth

Total Amount requested: \$30,000

Population and number of people to be served:

The Superstition Mountain Branch of Boys & Girls Clubs will serve 250 youth, ages 5–18. 45% of members at this Branch live at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty Level and 54% live with a single parent or adults other than biological parents, including

grandparents and foster guardians. 60% of members served at this Club are Apache Junction residents.

Agency Description:

Please provide a brief description of your organization's history, experience, and services provided. Please address the following:

1. Has your agency received funding from Apache Junction in the past? If yes:
 - a. What was the year
 - b. Amount,
 - c. Project/Service
 - d. How your agency met the expectations of the funding agreement.

Yes. Boys & Girls Clubs of the Valley is grateful to be a consistent recipient of funding from Apache Junction. Our most recent award is FY25-26, for \$9,000 to support youth mentorship programming and financial assistance for low-income families. As of 12/31/25, we have provided \$5,040 in financial assistance for Apache Junction families (of the \$3,000 in our agreement) and have allocated \$4,163 towards direct service staff salaries for youth mentorship (of the \$6,000 allocated in our agreement). To date, we have served 179 youth at the Superstition Mountain Branch in Apache Junction, with 109 being Apache Junction residents.

2. Purpose of the agency

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Valley offers affordable after-school and summer programs for over 20,000 young people in grades K–12. In 31 Clubs across Arizona, BGCAZ provides award-winning programs designed to change the lives of young people. For 80 years, BGCAZ has been creating equity and opportunity for youth through academic, social, and workforce opportunities. We help young people make healthy decisions and focus on social development to build resilient young adults. Most importantly, we work to develop strong character and leadership skills by creating positive connections to caring adults and their community.

Boys & Girls Clubs employs a Formula for Impact for how the organization impacts the life of a child. Our programs are organized around four Priority Outcomes: Health & Well-Being; Academic Success; Character & Leadership; and Life & Workforce Readiness.

3. Type of agency

Boy & Girls Clubs of the Valley is recognized by the Internal Revenue Services as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

4. Services provided

Superstition Mountain Boys & Girls Club, located at 2805 S. Ironwood Drive, Apache Junction, AZ 85120, is open Monday through Friday from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. during the school year, with adjusted hours for early release days. When school is not in session, the Club operates full-day hours from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., providing a safe, enriching environment for youth. All members receive nutritious meals and snacks daily.

As of FY2026, the Superstition Mountain Branch is also a designated 21st Century Community Learning Center (21st CCLC) site (partnered with Cactus Canyon Junior High). This designation enhances the Club's ability to offer structured, standards-aligned academic programming and deeper community partnerships to support student success.

Youth are grouped by age and rotate through daily activities that align with BGCAZ's four Priority Outcome Areas:

1. Academic Success

The day begins with academic support, including homework help and tutoring, to reinforce learning from the school day. Youth also participate in STEAM-focused modules (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) that foster curiosity and build skills for future careers. In fact, 50% of the Club's program time and budget is dedicated to Academic Success activities.

2. Health & Wellness

Clubs promote physical and mental health through individual and team sports, cooking clubs, and wellness activities that help members build lifelong habits. Youth also learn how to manage stress, recognize emotions, and make healthy decisions, aligning with BGCAZ's Whole Child Approach and FY26 Health &

3. Character & Leadership

Youth are mentored by trained staff who model positive behavior and support members in building respect, empathy, and citizenship. Older members are encouraged to take on leadership roles within the Club and participate in service projects that benefit the community.

4. Life & Workforce Readiness

As youth progress toward high school, they engage in programs that help them explore interests, learn job-readiness skills, and prepare for future employment. This includes resume writing, mock interviews, and opportunities for job shadowing and paid internships, helping them develop confidence and career direction.

In all these areas, programming is intentionally designed to close equity gaps for youth from low-income households, many of whom face barriers to accessing high-quality enrichment, tutoring, or mentoring elsewhere. BGCAZ's presence in Apache Junction ensures that all children, regardless of background, have the opportunity to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

5. Provide target population and demographic information on your current clientele to include percentage located within the City of Apache Junction

The Superstition Mountain Club, for FY26-27, will serve 250 youth members. Those served are between the ages of 5 and 18. 46% of members at this Club identify as persons of color (44%); 45% come from families living at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty Level; and 54% live with a single parent or adults other than biological parents, including members of the child welfare system. Of the 250 members who served at the

Superstition Mountain Club, 60% are residents of Apache Junction, with the balance coming from nearby communities.

6. Explain how your agency will have adequate capacity to complete the project/service being requested.

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Valley (BGCAZ) has been serving youth in Arizona since 1946. Our Superstition Mountain Branch in Apache Junction is a well-established part of the community and has strong relationships with local schools and the Apache Junction Unified School District. As of FY2026, this site is also a 21st Century Community Learning Center (21st CCLC), which allows us to expand our academic and enrichment programming even further.

Each year, BGCAZ serves more than 20,000 youth across 31 Club locations, including the Superstition Mountain Branch. We have the staff, systems, and experience needed to keep programs running smoothly and safely. Our trained youth development professionals are supported by a strong operations team that ensures quality across all sites.

Our Clubs also play a key role in helping families stay employed. In fact, 93% of BGCAZ families say the Club helps them keep their jobs by giving their kids a safe, reliable place to go after school. We're proud to provide a space where youth are supported and parents have peace of mind

7. Provide a list of your annual fundraisers and average amount raised.

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Valley hosts several annual fundraising events that support all of our Clubs, including Apache Junction. These events help us cover administrative costs and expand programs that serve youth across the Valley.

STARS Gala – \$2,000,000
Avondale Cup – \$100,000
Connect Brunch – \$100,000

In addition, Yesteryear is a local event that directly supports our Superstition Mountain Branch in Apache Junction, raising an average of \$40,000 each year. Funds from Yesteryear stay in the community and help us offer affordable, high-quality programs for local youth and families.

8. Are you listed on the www.211Arizona.org website?

Yes. Boys & Girls Clubs of the Valley is listed on www.211Arizona.org.

9. Have you participated in the following: a Project Connect event, a Health and Wellness Expo or the Apache Junction Community Resource Center in the past?

Yes, BGCAZ has participated in the past. We recently added two positions to our agency – a Vice President of Regional Impact, and Director of External Affairs. Both of these positions are designed to support our agency and individual Clubs in engaging in more community events and community partnerships.

Project/Service Description:

Please describe the proposed project/service to be funded. Please address the following:

1. Who will be served?

BGCAZ provides services to any youth, ages 5 to 18, and their families.

2. How will this project serve Apache Junction proper residents?

Youth in Apache Junction benefit directly from high-quality programs at our Superstition Mountain Branch that help them stay on track in school, graduate on time, and plan for life after high school, whether that means college, trade school, or entering the workforce. Just as important, they have a safe place to go during out-of-school hours, which helps reduce the risks that come with unsupervised time and lowers the potential strain on law enforcement and other community resources.

BGCAZ keeps program fees as low as possible so families can access care. For those who still cannot afford it, we offer fee waivers thanks to generous donor support. No child is ever turned away due to a family's financial situation.

The benefits of BGCAZ programs extend beyond the individual youth we serve. A 2025 independent study by ASU's Seidman Institute found that every \$1 invested in BGCAZ results in \$14.79 in social and economic value returned to the community. Supporting Apache Junction youth helps build stronger families and a stronger community overall.

3. What services will be provided?

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Valley provides high-quality, out-of-school-time programs for youth ages 5 to 18. These services are offered after school during the academic year, including on early release days, and full-day during school breaks and summer.

Programming is designed to meet the needs of working families while helping youth build the skills and confidence they need to succeed.

All activities align with BGCAZ's four Priority Outcomes:

1. **Academic Success** – Helping youth become self-directed learners who succeed in school through homework help, tutoring, STEAM activities, and academic enrichment.
2. **Health & Wellness** – Supporting young people in making informed, healthy decisions that strengthen their physical, mental, and emotional well-being.
3. **Character & Leadership** – Encouraging youth to stay true to their values, show good citizenship, and create positive change in their Club and community.
4. **Life & Workforce Readiness** – Preparing young people to navigate adulthood and explore career pathways with programs that build confidence, time management, and financial literacy skills.

Programs are led by trained staff in a safe, supportive environment, giving youth the tools they need to thrive today and into the future.

4. What are the benefits?

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Valley helps youth in Apache Junction build confidence, develop life skills, and stay on a positive path. When young people are supported after school and during school breaks, they are more likely to succeed in school, avoid risky behaviors, and build strong relationships with peers and mentors.

Families benefit from having access to consistent, affordable care. This allows parents and guardians to work or pursue education, knowing their children are safe and engaged in meaningful activities.

The broader impact goes even further. An independent study by ASU's Seidman Institute found that our programs contribute to higher high school graduation rates, reduced food insecurity, and better job retention for working parents. These outcomes not only benefit individual families but also strengthen the entire Apache Junction community. (Economic Impact Summary attached in this packet)

5. Provide a timeline and who is responsible.

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Valley offers programming year-round. Our schedule generally follows the school calendar, with after-school programs running from August through May and full-day programs offered during school breaks and summer. Club members renew their membership each July before the new school year begins, but new members can register at any time.

At the organizational level, BGCAZ is led by an experienced leadership team:

- Marcia Mintz, President & CEO, has led BGCAZ since 2016. She brings more than 20 years of experience in both the nonprofit and corporate sectors and holds a Master's in Business Administration.
- Swati Webb, Chief Financial Officer and Vice President of Business Operations, oversees all financial, HR, facilities, and technology operations. She has been with BGCAZ since 2005.
- Heather Budzien, Vice President of Programs and Branches, is responsible for the design and delivery of programs across all Club locations. She has held leadership roles within BGCAZ since 2008 and holds a Master's in Management.
- Liz Byrne, Vice President of Regional Impact, helps ensure that Clubs remain responsive to local community needs and partnerships.

At the Superstition Mountain Branch, Angela Davis serves as Branch Director. She oversees daily operations, leads the on-site staff team, and maintains strong relationships with members, families, and community partners. Ms. Davis has led the Apache Junction Club since 2013.

6. Where will the services be provided?

Services are provided at the Superstition Mountain Boys & Girls Club, 2805 South Ironwood Drive, Apache Junction, Arizona, 85120.

7. How will you provide the services?

Services are delivered in person at the Superstition Mountain Branch by trained and caring staff who are experienced in working with youth. Programming takes place in a safe, welcoming Club environment designed to support academic growth, healthy habits, and positive relationships.

Transportation is provided by local elementary schools in most cases, making it easier for younger members to get to the Club each day. Middle and high school students typically walk, since their campuses are located nearby. Once at the Club, youth follow a structured daily schedule that includes homework help, enrichment activities, recreation, and more.

All staff receive ongoing training to ensure consistent, trauma-informed, high-quality experiences for members at every age and stage.

8. Are there any community partners in this project? If so, please list.

Yes. BGCAZ is deeply connected to the communities we serve, and our Superstition Mountain Branch is no exception. We work closely with local elementary, middle, and high schools in Apache Junction to coordinate transportation for students, share Club information with families, and support youth during distance learning or school-based activities.

We also partner with the Apache Junction Police and Fire Departments, as well as the Parks and Recreation Department, to offer safety workshops and community engagement opportunities for our members. The Club frequently hosts guest speakers, local sports teams, and city leaders to help connect youth with their community.

In addition, we are proud to partner with the Apache Junction Mounted Rangers and a group of dedicated local residents led by Connie Van Driel, who organize fundraisers and advocate on behalf of the Superstition Mountain Branch. Their support plays a vital role in helping us keep services accessible for Apache Junction families.

9. What is the project/service and agency goals?

As a newly designated 21st Century Community Learning Center (21st CCLC) site, the Superstition Mountain Branch is committed to specific program goals that align with state and federal standards for academic and youth development outcomes. These goals guide our daily programming and ensure measurable progress for youth and families in Apache Junction.

Academic Objectives

- By the end of each program year, at least 40% of all regular attendees will improve their reading scores by 4 percentage points, based on pre- and post-assessments provided by the school district.
- By the end of each program year, at least 40% of all regular attendees will improve their math scores by 3 percentage points, as measured by the same method.

Youth Development Objectives

- At least 70% of regular attendees will show growth in one or more youth development indicators, such as perseverance, growth mindset, or social awareness, as measured through a program-created pre- and post-survey.
- At least 70% of regular attendees will demonstrate improved skills in managing peer conflict and problem-solving, based on a student check-in tool developed by the program team.

Family Engagement Objective

- At least 30% of family members of regular attendees will participate in one or more literacy or education-focused engagement opportunities, as tracked through attendance records.

In addition to these site-specific goals, BGCAZ has established broader outcome targets across all Club locations to be reached by June 30, 2026:

- 85% of K–12 members will participate in homework help or academic enrichment.
- 65% of participating members will report improved learning mindsets and academic identity.
- 65% will report building healthy habits related to physical activity, decision-making, and resisting peer pressure.
- 65% of teens will report stronger confidence in time management, financial literacy, and post-secondary planning.

These goals are measured through tools like the National Youth Outcomes Initiative (NYOI) survey and site-based evaluations. Results guide continuous improvement and help ensure we deliver effective, high-impact programs to Apache Junction youth and families.

10. How and will you sustain this project after the agreement has ended?

BGCAZ has a strong, diversified fund development strategy in place to sustain this project and all of our Club operations. We raise funds through a mix of individual donors, corporate and foundation grants, government service contracts, and well-established fundraising events. This balanced approach helps ensure long-term stability and reduces reliance on any single funding source.

We also invest in ongoing community engagement and digital media efforts to share our impact and attract continued support. BGCAZ is fiscally sound, with a proven track record of not only maintaining but growing services across our network of Clubs.

With your support, we are confident that we can continue offering high-quality programs at the Superstition Mountain Branch well beyond the end of this agreement.

Project/Service Budget:

Provide a detailed project budget and narrative based on activities indicated above including:

1. Amount being requested

BGCAZ respectfully requests an award of \$30,000 to support services for Apache Junction youth at the Superstition Mountain Branch. This funding would help cover salaries and benefits for the trained youth development professionals who deliver mentorship, academic support, and enrichment programming every day.

While financial assistance does not appear as a direct expense in our budget, it is reflected as reduced revenue from program fees. By investing in staff salaries, this award directly supports our ability to provide high-quality programs and make them accessible to all families, regardless of income.

2. Amount of funding provided by your agency (include source)
3. Amount of funding provided by partners (include source)

Line Item	Apache Junction	Other Sources	Sources of Funds
REVENUE			
Special Events (net expenses)		\$119,262	Organizational Fundraisers
Contributions		\$145,924	Corporate & Foundation Grants, Individual Donations
Govt. Funding	\$30,000	\$139,667	Food Program, AZ Dept. of Education, Pinal County
In-Kind		\$10,000	Community Donations

Club Revenues (net financial assistance)		\$47,723	Membership fees, monthly fees less financial
TOTAL	\$30,000	\$462,576	\$492,576
EXPENSES			
Salaries	\$26,000	\$342,038	
ERE (Benefits & Payroll Taxes)	\$4,000	\$37,475	
Contracted Services		\$1,620	
Communications		\$4,490	
Program Supplies		\$53,750	
Occupancy (Rent, Utilities Building & Grounds)		\$87,850	
Transportation		\$3,025	
Travel/Meetings/Conferences		\$400	
Membership Dues/Support to Affiliate Organizations		\$4,136	
Non-Payroll Insurance		\$19,330	
TOTAL	\$30,000	\$462,576	\$492,576

4. A detailed narrative of the costs

The total club budget is \$492,576 covering the following:

Salaries: Direct program staff salaries who provide daily enrichment activities and mentorship to youth

ERE: Includes taxes and other Employee Related Expenses for direct service staff.

Contracted Services: Covers contracted staff through Terros Health for Behavioral Health Technicians embedded in Clubs to facilitate our Whole Child Approach focusing on mental and emotional wellness.

Communications (phone, fax, modem, postage): Phone, internet, and copying.

Program Supplies: Direct service program supplies, including foods for healthy meals and snacks.

Occupancy: Building occupancy including utilities and facility maintenance.

Travel/Meetings/Conferences: Costs for staff training.

Transportation: Reflects transportation costs for staff to attend agency training events, field trip transportation, etc.

Membership Dues: Allocation of costs to remain affiliated with Boys & Girls Clubs of America

Non-Payroll Insurance: Includes liability and other non-payroll insurance.

5. What percentage of your agency's total annual budget is this funding request? With an annual operating budget of \$28,261,720, this request represents less than 1% of our total budget, and 6% of the Superstition Mountain Club Budget.

6. Indicate if you would accept partial funding and if so, provide the minimum amount and how your project will change.

Yes, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Valley would accept partial funding. While the request reflects the true cost of delivering high-quality programs at the Superstition Mountain Branch, we are committed to ensuring that Apache Junction youth continue receiving safe, supportive, and enriching services regardless of the funding level.

We recognize that your investment represents a meaningful commitment to this community, and we value the partnership. Your support helps us keep program fees low, provide scholarships to families in need, and enhance the quality of experiences we offer to local youth.

Should partial funding be awarded, BGCAZ would not reduce services, but we would need to adjust internal resources or seek additional funding to close the gap.