

68A yf



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

for

EMERGENCY RELIEF AND RECOVERY

October 31, 2024

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
And the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Authorize the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR) to accept and expend \$100,000 to support the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Nashua effective upon approval of the Governor and Executive Council through June 30, 2025. This is an allowable use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) under Section 602(c)(1)(A) to respond to the public health emergency or its negative economic impacts. 100% Federal Funds.

Funds are to be budgeted as follows:

Table with 5 columns: CLASS, ACCOUNT, FY2025 CURRENT MODIFIED BUDGET, FY2025 BUDGET REQUEST, FY2025 REVISED BUDGET. Rows include EXPENDITURES (040-041-072-085-103), SOURCE OF FUNDS (000), and TOTAL EXPENSES/REVENUE.

1 All direct program costs will be accounted for using activity 00PRF602PH0235A and all administrative and indirect costs will be accounted for using activity 00PRF602PH0235Z. Accounting classifications may be subject to technical changes at the discretion of the Department of Administrative Services' Division of Accounting Services.

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu  
and the Honorable Council

October 31, 2024  
Page 2 of 3

### EXPLANATION

This request will assist the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Nashua ("the Club") with the renovation of its Early Learning Center ("ELC") and Mental Health Suite. These projects are part of the Club's larger capital campaign entitled "The Power of YOUTH," which has a \$10 million goal and is comprised of three parts: \$6M to support a renovation of the Club's facility at One Positive Place in Nashua, \$2M to expand the open-air footprint and available outdoor program space, and \$2M to grow the Club's endowment to support future Club operations. As of early summer, the Club had raised \$6.8M of the \$10M target in eight months of active solicitation.

In 2023, the Club expanded the ages served by its ELC to include children ages six weeks through third grade. The Club sets its tuition in the bottom tier compared to other center-based providers, and they accept state scholarships for families who qualify. In addition, shortly after opening the ELC, the Club was contacted by the Hillsborough County Drug Court, who shared that due to the lack of affordable child care, many single mothers were choosing to go to jail for short periods rather than going through the drug court process. The Club has since started reserving one slot in their infant and toddler programs for children of drug court participants, allowing mothers to participate in drug court and families to stay united.

In the last year and a half, due to ever-increasing need, the ELC has grown from serving 50 children to licensed childcare to 150 children served today. The community's current need for childcare has outgrown the ELC's current space. This funding will be used to help the Club renovate the existing space in a way that provides the best environment possible for the age groups of children served: infants, toddlers, pre-K, and school aged members.

A portion of this funding will also be used to fund the Club's Mental Health Suite. Mental Health counseling is included in the Club's annual \$40 membership fee at no extra cost for families. Examples of mental health services provided by the Club include traditional counseling, but also social-emotional wellness programs that teach various coping mechanisms, clubs such as Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD), Positive Action programs that reinforce healthy decision making, and a substance misuse prevention program called Camp Mariposa for young people who have been impacted by a family member's drug misuse.

Currently, the Club's mental health offices and counseling rooms are in converted closets located off the main entrance to a full mental health suite in a quiet, more private portion of the building. This will allow the Club to expand its mental health services to best meet the social emotional needs of the community's young people.

Funds for this item are made available through ARPA SFRF funding that has been reallocated from programs that did not expend their entire award amount.

Funds are to be budgeted as follows:

Class 072- Grants Federal to provide funding for an award as described above.

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu  
and the Honorable Council

October 31, 2024  
Page 3 of 3

In the event that Federal Funds become no longer available, General Funds will not be requested to support this program.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. Caswell", written over a large, stylized checkmark or "X" mark.

Taylor Caswell  
Executive Director, GOFERR