

TWO AWARDS FROM FOUR FINALISTS

GULF BREEZE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: AN "APP" A DAY

- Applicant: Tiffany McClure
- Grant Request: \$2,949.50
- GBWD Funds will be used to purchase: 10 iPad Mini 2s (32GB) and cases, (4) - \$50 Apple iTunes gift cards for apps.
- Project An "App" a Day is aimed at students who are in grades K-5 and who either have a disability or who are falling behind their peers because they need extra help with a concept.

GULF BREEZE HIGH SCHOOL: BLUE AND GOLD NEWSPAPER START UP

- Applicant: Ken Killam
- Grant Request: \$2,334.00
- GBWD funds will be used to purchase: printing 3 issues, website renewal, AP Images, Florida Scholastic Press membership.
- This grant would fund the May issue and provide start up costs for *The Blue and Gold* for 2017-2018. *The Blue and Gold* is the last surviving print newspaper in the school district. In the past few years, the student newspaper has experienced a decline in print advertising, just like large newspapers. Meanwhile, productions cost continue to rise. *The Blue and Gold* receives no school funding. We have a classroom and computers provided, but all costs of production are student raised. The staff members are involved in multiple organizations which also require them to

fundraise - sports, band, drama, or debate. We operate much like a *Thrifty Nickel*: advertising pays production costs. (Charging for the paper doesn't work as it makes readership decline.) We produce eight newspapers a year; each issue costs roughly \$600 to print. Thus, just to exist, we have to raise \$4800. We pay \$300 yearly to get Associated Press photos so students can use copyrighted material. Our website (<http://gbhsblueandgold.com>), costs another \$300 yearly, which has become a necessity these days. We continue membership in the Florida Scholastic Press Association (FSPA), which also costs about \$200 in membership and evaluation costs. FSPA professionals evaluate and send a written critique of several issues. The Blue and Gold has received Bronze and Silver ratings as well as the top award, All Florida.

GULF BREEZE MIDDLE SCHOOL: MOVE TO CALM/SENSORY NEEDS

- Applicant: Tina Leonard
- Grant Request: \$1,438.00
- GBWD funds will be used to purchase: 2 Spun Chairs
- Gulf Breeze has a growing population of students with unique disabilities. This includes students with autism as well as other challenges. The students can have difficulty processing everyday sensory information. Their sensory system can affect behaviors and can profoundly effect the student's daily quality of life. This project will introduce two Spun Chairs to the Communication, Behavior, Social, Academic (CBSA) program at Gulf Breeze Middle School. The chairs' function is to introduce age appropriate activities that will help develop ways to cope with everyday sensory

issues. Movement, rhythm, vestibular input, and the opportunity for core strengthening provided by using the chairs are very beneficial to the students. The daily use of these chairs will support the progress of each student's behavior, social, and communication goals. They will also enhance the time students spend in center/group work. The Spun Chairs will be a positive addition to the CBSA program at Gulf Breeze Middle School.

ORIOLE BEACH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: BRIGHT SOLUTIONS FOR DYSLEXIA

- Applicant: Laura Robinson
- Grant Request: \$2,419.60
- GBWD funds will be used to purchase: 10 levels of the Barton Reading and Spelling System for Dyslexics.
- I am seeking funding for The Barton Reading and Spelling System for Dyslexics. This system has 10 Levels that take a nonreader, nonspeller, and or non-writer to matery. One in five pepoole are affected by dyslexia. Currently, there is not a program in the public school to help reach the children that come through our doors who suffer from this reading disorder. It is characterized by trouble with reading despite normal intelligence. Recently I was asked to who with a child who has dyslexia. He is a 5th grader reading at a kindergarten level. He has been in Read 180 for three years, and he has had tutors since first grade. He is beginning to hate school and lose all hope in ever reading. There are countless children like him. It breaks my heart to think that we currently have no

weapon in our arsenal to help these kids. With this ten-leveled system, I will be able to reach all troubled readers and help them to achieve success. This system can be shared with other teachers within my school who have children with this same diagnosis. One huge benefit with The Barton reading and Spelling System is that it comes with 5 hours of training videos with each level.

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GULF BREEZE HIGH SCHOOL: TRACK TEAM HURDLES

- Applicant: Scott Barker
- Grant Request: \$3,768.61
- GBWD funds will be used to purchase: 20 new hurdles and freight delivery.
- Gulf Breeze High School's track team uses hurdles Monday through Friday during the months of January through April (track season). In addition to use during practice, hurdles are used multiple times during home track meets at Dolphin Stadium (approx. 3-4 meets per season). We are requesting funds to replace our older round-based hurdles, which are over ten years old and showing signs of deterioration. Our goal is to have all competition square-based hurdles. We are requesting funds to purchase 20 square-base hurdles, so we can update and replace the older hurdles that we currently have.

MIDWAY FIRE DISTRICT: VIRTUAL EDUCATION

SYSTEM - VIRTUAL REALITY FOR EMS & FIRE

- Applicant: Jonathan
Kanzigg
- Grant
Request: \$4,313.00
- GBWD funds will be used to purchase: Virtual Reality Equipment Package, Virtual Education for Paramedic & EMT Medical Case Series.
- The Virtual Education System is the latest technology for Fire & EMS training. It will give the First Responder a real life feel with the 360 degree virtual reality simulator. The system offers patients with several different signs and symptoms that change as the First Responder gives treatments. It also offers multiple fire scenarios that react to the actions taken by the Firefighter in training.

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GULF BREEZE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT: TRAFFIC PREEMPTION DEVICE

- Applicant: Scott Kasper
- Grant
Request: \$7,900.00
- GBWD funds will be used to purchase/rent: (2) GPS Preemption kits and (2) Opticom GPS installations.
- Gulf Breeze Volunteer Fire Department is in need of two GPS Preemption Devices. These devices will be placed into two fire trucks and used while responding to emergencies. The devices transmit the location of the

fire truck to the traffic light and change it to green so the fire trucks do not have to fight through grid-locked traffic. Currently responding fire trucks struggle through heavy traffic at each intersection along Highway 98. These devices work on every traffic signal along Highway 98 from the end of the Pensacola Bay Bridge to the Santa Rosa and Okaloosa County line.

THURSDAY RESPITE: COMMUNICATION CONNECTION

- Applicant: Joy Grace
- Grant Request: \$7,573.00
- GBWD funds will be used to purchase: (4) iPad Air 2s, Easy -Tech communication kit, Boardmaker, Big Mack, Talking Brix, Switch Lanes, Super Switch Hitter, and Choose and Cook software, laminator and sheets, card stock, velcro, friction knobs for iPad Air 2s, Defender cases for iPad Air 2s, Proloquo App, iTunes card for apps, All-Turn-It spinner, Time timer, Swifty USB interface, BIG Track trackball, Blue 2 Bluetooth switch, Bidy Button, SAM joystick,
- *We look into his eyes every week and wonder, "What is he thinking?" But only his eyes speak. We listen attentively to her labored speech and still must ask for repeated repetitions to understand. Our friends earnestly wish to communicate with us and with the rest of the world. There must be a better way. One day our friends will have a way to express their words and thoughts more easily. Maybe that day will be soon. The Thursday Respite Program is requesting technology and assistive devices that have the potential of changing the lives of our friends. One third of our*

participants have severe communication disorders. Our program is operated completely by a team of volunteers who provide 1:1 interaction with a very diverse population. With correct tools, we are confident we can significantly improve the quality of life for many of our friends and families.

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ANIMAL ALLIES FLORIDA: FIXCATS.ORG GULF BREEZE

- Applicant: Sharyn Berg
- Grant Request: \$9,980.00
- GBWD Funds will be used to purchase: Spay/neuters and rabies vaccinations for 24 community cats, FVRCP vaccinations, Lamar billboard.
- Santa Rosa County Animal Shelter killed 3,420 cats/kittens in 2015 - 90% of the cats that went into the shelter. These cats are victims of human negligence. They don't deserve to die. Bird lovers, animal lovers, the animal shelter ALL want the same thing - fewer free roaming cats. Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) is the ONLY proven humane method of reducing free-roaming cat populations. Feral cats can't be adopted or moved. Fixing and returning them keeps other cats from moving in and stops the reproducing. Our FixCats.org project will fix/vaccinate 214 cats in Gulf Breeze preventing 2,500+ kittens from being born this year! Educating the public is a key component to reducing roaming cats. Our proposal includes billboard rent on Hwy 98 near Walmart that will read "Trap/Neuter/Return Saves

Lives! FixCats.org". People will be able to find more information on the website. Services to create the billboard are being donated.

GULF BREEZE HIGH SCHOOL: FOOTBALL HELMET QUALITY AND PROTECTION UPGRADE

- Applicant: Jonny Cook
- Grant request: \$9,817.00
- GBWD funds will be used to purchase: (18) Riddell Revo Speed "Flex" helmets, (25) Riddell Revo Speed helmets, shipping costs.
- Our proposal is to reduce the risks of traumatic brain injuries and concussions for our high school football players by purchasing the highest-rated and most technologically advanced football helmets on the market. Previously, many of our varsity players had purchased these helmets for their own use (at a significant retail mark-up) to reduce the risk of concussion. Our cases of head injuries yielded from these helmets last season were zero. This is a stark comparison to the helmets we issued to our players, which yielded 10 diagnosed concussions or instances of concussion-like symptoms in competition in one season alone. We hope to protect the safety and well-being of our student-athletes by significantly reducing the risk of traumatic brain injuries by purchasing the highest rated safety equipment available.

SANTA ROSA SCHOOL DISTRICT: SUPPORT SERVICES FOR HOMELESS STUDENTS IN SRCSD

- Applicant: Karen Barber
- Grant request: \$10,000.00
- GBWD funds will be used to purchase: (50) hotel vouchers

- for emergency housing, (50) gas cards for transportation assistance, emergency food assistance, (10) laptops for post-secondary education.
- Santa Rosa School District provides resources and support for students and their families who are homeless. Currently there are 875 students who have been identified as eligible for homeless education services under the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Education Act of 1992 during the 2016-2017 school year. In the 32561 and 32563 area codes, 76 homeless students have been identified (Gulf Breeze Elementary, 16; Gulf Breeze Middle, 8; Gulf Breeze High School, 26; Oriole Beach Elementary, 16). The goal of the Santa Rosa Homeless Education Program is to provide resources and support to homeless students and to successfully transition students to post-secondary education and employment. The school district currently receives funding for tutoring, case management, and school supplies to support our students. These funds are categorical so they may not be spent on food, housing, emergency transportation, clothing, or technology. To support the regular attendance, academic achievement, and successful transition to post-secondary and employment, the basic needs of our homeless students must also be met. It is for this reason that the Santa Rosa School District Homeless Education Program is seeking funding from the Gulf Breeze Will Do Grant.

WEEKEND FOOD PROGRAM: SUPPORT FOR SUMMER SCHOOL BREAK

- Applicant: Mike Stahl
- Grant request: \$8,250.00
- GBWD funds will be used to purchase: 10 weeks of food

- for 100 students.
- The Weekend Food Program was started in the spring of 2011 at the Gulf Breeze Presbyterian Church to address the problem of hunger and poor nutrition over the weekend for children from families who receive free lunches in South Santa Rosa County. The program has grown over the years in student participation as well as community involvement with volunteers from a consortium of Gulf Breeze civic organizations, individuals and churches actively supporting the program. All five public schools in 32561 and 32563 zip codes currently participate in the program with over 170 students. Unfortunately there has not been any support provided to participating children and families over the summer. This grant is intended to ensure that, for the first-time, families that desire to participate will continue to receive support during the summer school break.