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| PROGRAM BACKGROUND | <p>The purpose of the Substance Prevention Grant Committee shall be to identify and make recommendations on distributing license fee funds for public health and safety programs that promote prevention, education, and positive choices in reducing youth substance use (alcohol, tobacco, vape, and marijuana) within Windham.</p> |
| FUNDING & APPLICATION DEADLINE | <p>Applications will be accepted at The Town Manager's Office any time during the year while funds are still available. Incomplete applications will not be accepted or considered.</p> |
| FUNDING AWARD & DISBURSEMENT | <p>The Town's Substance Prevention Grant Committee will review applications and select funding recipients. Applicants will be notified of the Committee's decision in a timely manner. The Committee reserves the right to grant all, or any part, of the total amount requested.</p> |
| APPLICANT DELIVERABLES | <p>Fund recipients will be required to submit a Progress and Final Report to ensure completion of all project activities. The progress report shall update the project timeline and ensure project completion. The progress report will be submitted to the Town's Substance Prevention Grant Committee, or designee, mid-way through the project timeline after receiving funds. The Final Report will be submitted in a timely manner after project completion.</p> |

| I. APPLICANT INFORMATION | | |
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| DATE SUBMITTED | PROGRAM NAME | |
| 10/20/2024 | WMS STEM Club: First Lego League Robotics Team | |
| APPLICANT NAME | APPLICANT ADDRESS | |
| Brian Casey | 408 Gray Rd, Windham, ME 04062 | |
| APPLICANT PHONE | EMAIL | FAX |
| 203 645 4595 | bcasey@rsu14.org | |
| AFFILIATE ORGANIZATION (if any) | ORGANIZATION ADDRESS | |
| N/A | N/A | |
| LOCATION OF PROGRAM | LOCATION ADDRESS | |
| Windham Middle School | 408 Gray Rd, Windham, ME 04062 | |
| FISCAL OFFICER (if different from applicant) | ADDRESS | |

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| Andrea Morrell | 408 Gray Road | |
| FISCAL OFFICER PHONE | EMAIL | FAX |
| 207-892-1820 | amorrell@rsu14.org | |
| ANTICIPATED # PARTICIPANTS | TOTAL PROJECT COST | FUNDING REQUESTED |
| 3-10 (Hopefully more in the future) | \$1075 | \$1075 |



II. PROGRAM INFORMATION – PLEASE PROVIDE: (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

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| <p>A. A STATEMENT OF THE EDUCATIONAL VALUE OF PROGRAM</p> | <p>We are looking to relaunch the Windham Middle School Robotics Team. This would involve students staying after school once or twice a week working towards designing, building, and programming a robot to compete in the First Lego League Competition. They would learn Engineering, programming, leadership, and teamwork skills.</p> <p>As we sat down and began to write this grant our small group jumped into a conversation on how our club supports the mission of the Substance Prevention Grant Program. The students had many insightful things to say. We discussed the issue of youth substance abuse and how those students who pick up good habits and healthy extracurricular activities typically have a better chance of avoiding situations that lead to substance abuse. We see this middle school club as a potentially influential group to steer students into the high school robotics program club. Creating a path for students to stick with healthy extracurriculars as they head towards adulthood.</p> <p>I can't believe this actually happened and cannot name names. As I retyped this grant, A student staying a late night, whom I would label as at-risk, asked if they were still able to join the club because it "looks cool". The answer was yes. While our relationship with this student is strained and they have not expressed more interested. This is the influence that we hope to have. If we can engage students like this from 6th grade and upward we could be a positive influence in their life and potentially change it forever.</p> |
| <p>B. THE PROGRAM GOALS & OBJECTIVES</p> | <p>Our Program goal is to give students a safe, supportive, and healthy extracurricular activity; that can foster their interest in STEM subjects and lead to healthy choices in the future.</p> <p>We have an objective of attending this year's First Lego League Competition in February of 2025. I hope to create a long-lasting STEM club, with a focus on the robotics program, but also allows for students' exploration of STEM-related subjects and activities.</p> |

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| | <p>The fundraising request is to buy this year's playing field and competition elements. These are required in order to design a robot that can compete successfully.</p> <p>Robotics programs are the type of activity that requires a substantial initial investment. We have access to the Robotics kits themselves, but need the challenge elements. From experience, I have found it extremely difficult to start an educational extracurricular without access to the resources needed. "For Fun" activities don't have this issue, but when there is written design process work that is part of the competition, its difficult to get a group on board with fundraising to write an essay and learn a difficult skill. We hope to be able to get off the ground and focus our fundraising on the future of our club instead of the beginning.</p> |
| <p>C. THE PROGRAM CREATOR & TARGET AUDIENCE</p> | <p>The program creator is Brian Casey, STEM teacher at Windham Middle School, along with a small group of dedicated students. The target audience is all students from 6th to 8th grade students who are interested in Technology and STEM subjects. 6th grade currently does not have STEM in their schedule, so this provides a place to engage with something they otherwise would not get until 7th Grade. 6th grade is also a good age to capture the minds of students before they are overly influenced by the judgments of others. Getting students involved as early as possible will help ensure our success in meeting our goal.</p> |
| <p>D. HOW THE PROGRAM IS MONITORED FOR SUCCESS. WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?</p> | <p>We will monitor our success in a few ways.</p> <p>First off, we would find ourselves successful if our club grew over the next few years to a stable group of 10-20 students.</p> <p>This year we will be self-accessing how well our robotics team can design and program a robot to complete the various competition tasks. This year's competition includes 15 tasks, we will see how many our team can complete.</p> <p>By attending the State First Lego League competition, we will be able to compare our success to other students. Having a robot that can compete in the first year, would be a success in itself, but we hope that we would be successful in some of the competition tasks as well.</p> |
| <p>E. ADDITIONAL FUNDING RESOURCES FOR YOUR PROGRAM</p> | <p>We plan to kick off a handful of fundraisers to come up with additional funding. We would need to fundraise for both attending the competition and for next year's competition kit. Our team is enthusiastic about fundraising, but they expressed their concerns about needing to raise the funds needed to be successful this year.</p> <p>Our Team Brainstormed that we will/could...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● (Coming Soon!) Raffle fundraiser "Guess how many legos are in the Jar" 1\$ entry, \$50 prize. ● Reach out to local businesses looking for a Club Sponsor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We would put their name on a shirt, which would become our team uniform for the State competition. ● We could host a movie night and sell popcorn, soda, and candy. ● We could manage a student microwave during lunch waves charging 25 cents a minute. |
| <p>F. ADDITIONAL PARTNERS PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM & WHAT THEIR ROLES ARE</p> | <p>No other partners are working with our club at the moment. Hopefully would could find a Sponsor for our team, who could potentially serve as a 2nd coach and/or help our team buy the competition kit each year.</p> <p>We will be creating a team as part of the First Robotics Organization, which is partnered with Maine teachers, other partners, and event volunteers.</p> |

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| | NET FUNDING REQUESTED \$1075 |
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Programming can be for all ages, singular or multiple events, presentations, speakers, media campaigns, collaborations with other entities, etc. Please attach additional information that you feel is pertinent to your application.

The objective of any programming is to instill healthy (mental, physical and social) decision making skills with supporting educational materials as necessary (written, verbal, visual) concerning substance abuse. The programming method may incorporate hands-on, visual, academic, or other know learning modalities.

Grant funds can only be used for the educational programming that is specified in the grant request. Applicants may be required to meet with the Substance Prevention Grant Committee to provide further details.

Businesses, individuals, and affiliates that have contributed to the Educational Fee Fund are exempt from receiving funds.

The Substance Prevention Grant Committee will review applications at the beginning of each month. Applications that are denied will need to wait six months before reapplying.

All programs are public information. Availability of funds for programming is set by the committee.

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