

Town of Colchester
ARPA Recovery Funding Request Application

Directions: Please fill in all fields. Once completed, either print and drop off this application to the First Selectman's office located at 127 Norwich Ave, Colchester, CT 06415, or save a copy and email to ARPA@ColchesterCT.gov. If you have questions please email ARPA@ColchesterCT.gov. Please include any additional documentation you feel would help in the application process. Submit only one project per application (submit multiple applications if you have multiple projects).

Important: Applicant must demonstrate that the funding use directly addresses a negative economic impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Applicant Background Information

Applicant Name:	Joy Tyler	Date Prepared:	4/9/2022
Applicant email:	jtyler2@sbcglobal.net	Applicant Phone:	860-338-6342
Department / Business / Establishment Name:	Boy Scout Troop 13, St. Andrew Church		

Project Details

Project Title:	Replacement of equipment/training/	Anticipated Start Date:	June 2022
Total Funding Request Amount:	\$ 40,475	Anticipated Length of Time to Complete Project:	6 months
On a scale of 1 (Not Urgent) - 10 (Very Urgent), how urgent is this request? Please explain.	8 - Our equipment is old and in need of replacement. Anticipating this need, we had been fundraising toward replacement, during the pandemic, fundraising has been nonexistent and reserved funds had to be tapped into. Without equipment, we cannot provide programming to our Scouts. Programming retains scouts, programming is expensive for families impacted by the pandemic. Leaders and scouts need training for safety and quality of programming.		

Project Description (How will the funds be used?)

We will use the funds to replace failing equipment, Trailer, tents, grill, fund community service projects and provide programming that was missed during the pandemic. Many of the lessons of scouting are conveyed using an outdoor adventure backdrop. Our trailer, used to haul all needed gear to monthly campouts, is old and falling apart, it was purchased in 2005. Adult Troop members have worked diligently to refurbish and keep it on the road, but it is continuing to age and the wear is significant. Camping and other outdoor programming carry the usual expenses of entrance fees, travel and food. The Troop also participates in community-wide service projects such as Scouting for Food, the largest annual food drive for the Colchester Food Bank, there are associated costs with all projects we participate in, for example hundreds of copies to provide lists of what to donate. We will also use funds to provide leadership training to 2-3 scouts, this is available annually at local Scout Reservations. Additionally, adults have training expenses such as CPR certifications for the safety of all scouts. We will also use the funds for programming to help the scouts re-engage following the pandemic and missed opportunities due to lock down and quarantining.

Justification (Please describe how your request addresses a negative impact to COVID-19.)

During the pandemic, fundraising has been virtually impossible, particularly considering the population we serve. Costs that have typically been covered by fundraising have had to be placed on the families who face their own personal challenges due to the pandemic, financial and otherwise. Sustaining membership in scouting during the pandemic has been a challenge.

There were many missed activities and opportunities for engagement by the scouts due to the pandemic. Camps were closed because of the health emergency. Remote programming on top of remote schooling was difficult and not of the typical quality or benefit. Families have had to make hard decisions about participating in scout-centered activities such as summer camp and National Youth Leadership Training. Using the funds to provide needed equipment and programming will help to retain youth membership in our program. As a result of the pandemic, some of our equipment had accelerated deterioration due to non-use.

Briefly explain the positive impact your project will have on the community.

Our Troop participates in town wide community service such as the Scouting-for-Food initiative and projects benefiting the Colchester Garden Club. Eagle Scout candidates from our Troop have provided many community service projects for groups such as the CBA (welcome sign installation), CHFD (picnic tables and flag poles), WJMS (benches and picnic tables), The Colchester Land Trust (Trail head sign), Colchester Parks and Rec (Benches), and the Colchester Preschool CO-OP (tables and sign), just to mention the most recent. The community benefits from the opportunity for positive engagement that Scouts provides. Few youth programs directly benefit the community in the way that Scouting does. Scouting helps youth develop academic skills, self-confidence, ethics, leadership skills, and citizenship skills. Scouting goes beyond many programs that teach basic skills and promote teamwork and encourages youth to achieve a deeper appreciation for service to others in their community.

Describe the impact to your department / business / establishment if ARPA funds are NOT approved.

Without the equipment needed to provide scout programming, the future of the Troop will be in jeopardy. Interest in scouting has unfortunately wained as youth have an ever-increasing number of pastimes to choose from, Colchester has already lost one of three Packs in town and a second is struggling to maintain work-able numbers. Without healthy Packs which provide most membership for the three Troops in town, the health of the Troops is also in jeopardy. Without fun and engaging camping and trips to offer, membership is likely to continue to dwindle. Time spent fundraising to overcome the gaps created by the pandemic is time that boys are not participating in programming, taking away from the quality of the program and making retention even harder.

**Budget Overview (How will the ARPA funding be spent?)
(If more room is needed, please attach additional spreadsheet)**

Budgeted item / Service	Budgeted Amount	Notes
Trailer	\$ 10,000	Replacement postponed through pandemic
Grill	\$ 2500	Replacemenet postponed through pandemic
Tents	\$ 4500	10-15 camping tents (take abuse, need quality)
Backpacking Tents	\$ 1500	6 - allows hiking adventures
Leader training	\$ 150	3 @ \$150
NYLT	\$ 600	National Youth Leadership Training 2 @ \$300
CPR Training	\$ 250	10 Leaders @\$25 safety
Wilderness Training	\$ 600	2 Leaders for trips away from health services
Misc Camping gear	\$ 3000	E.g. cold weather sleeping bags, jet boils to extend season
Year End Trip	\$ 4750	25 scouts @\$190 - programming and retention
Summer Camp	\$ 12625	25 scouts at \$505 - programming and engagement
TOTAL:	\$40475	