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For Immediate Release

We are extremely excited to announce that the Georgia Department of Education has approved the Georgia Recreation and Park Association to receive funding through the competitive Building Opportunities in Out-of-School Time (BOOST) Grants Program! Funding for the BOOST program comes from the American Rescue Plan, and the grant program is administered by the Georgia Department of Education in partnership with the Georgia Statewide Afterschool Network (GSAN).

As an Awarded Statewide Grantee, the Georgia Recreation and Park Association and our Contracted Member Agency's will be able to expand access to serve more youth and increase programmatic quality along with expanding or enhance supports and services offered.

The Purpose of these funds are to:

- *Expand access to serve more youth, with an emphasis on students and communities most impacted by the pandemic,*
- *Reduce barriers, such as transportation and enrollment costs, to ensure access for all, and/or*
- *Increase programmatic quality and expand or enhance supports and services offered.*

Fifteen GRPA Member Agencies for Afterschool received funding through the BOOST Contracts Program! Twenty-nine GRPA Member Agencies received BOOST Contract Funding for Summer BOOST Programs. GRPA BOOST Afterschool Contract Applications for 2022-2023 will be available soon. These funds will create long-term impact as we strive to serve the youth in our communities.

We are excited to announce that the Georgia Recreation and Park Association has approved Bulloch Co Recreation and Parks to receive a contract through the competitive Building Opportunities in Out-of-School Time (BOOST) Program!

“This summer we have focused on STEM activities.... The children have learned so much from the activities. They have participated in coding with robots, Lego engineering and construction, and building circuits. They have created slime and enjoyed making things out of clay. They have been excited to open each new box of activities, and every camper has participated in a learning STEM activity at least 4 out of 5 days each week. We have also had learning centers and one of our sites offered swim lessons. We have offered things that we have not been able to offer in the past. These funds have helped us go from building rockets with toilet paper tubes and tissue paper, to truly learning more about rockets and building them from quality materials that will last and have more of a learning impact. We have had a summer of learning infusion!!”, says Joy Deal, Recreation Manager.

Join us in Congratulating Bulloch County Recreation and Parks in celebrating this Contract Award in the amount of \$107,000.



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“Caring for Georgia’s People and Parks”