

**COMMUNITY  
CONNECTORS**

CommunityConnectors.Ohio.gov

**Description of Nature of Partnership**

In order to ensure the effective implementation of the Community Connectors program throughout the state, applicants are required to partner with education stakeholders from the faith, business, and nonprofit communities. Each applicant must identify its partners and include description of each respective partner's roles and responsibilities in question 12 of the grant application.

A partner agrees to provide human and material assets or access to academic and administrative resources to the grant applicant to develop or execute a Community Connectors grant application. However, in partnership, only the grant applicant is responsible for ensuring the grant is developed and executed according to the terms of the grant agreement.

**Each member of the partnership is responsible for the following assurances:**

- 1) Be knowledgeable about the applicant's Community Connectors grant proposal and application, including advocacy of the Community Connectors program.
- 2) Maintain a familiarity with the partner's services to enhance the proposal, including specific goals and practices.
- 3) Demonstrate a commitment to clear roles and responsibilities of each partner as it relates to the grant proposal and application.
- 4) Sustain consistent communication among partners and stakeholders with a shared vision of the goals of the grant proposal. This includes participating in regularly scheduled meetings for project management and identifying areas for improvement.
- 5) Ensure partners have appropriate access to data for purposes of grant program improvement and evaluation in accordance with state and federal law.

Lead Applicant  
Name: Andy Lynch

Title: Area Rep

Organization: Fellowship of Christian Athletes

Sign: [Signature]

Partner  
Name: Nick Schulze

Title: President

Organization: Schulze Services

Sign: [Signature]

Partner  
Name: Jason Andrew

Title: Science Teacher

Organization: Celina High School

Sign: [Signature]

Partner  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

**Application Section I: Community Connectors Program Description**

1. The target population is students grades 5-12. Identify the grade level or levels at each school that your program will be targeting. Programs may serve students in one or more grade levels.  
7th and 8th grade males and females.

2. Provide the number of youth in each grade level and at each school your program proposes to serve.  
50 per grade

3. Select one: Which of the following best describes the proposed project? Select one.

- A.  Totally new program developed by this organization
- B.  Replication of an existing model in use by others
  - Please provide the name of this model.
- C.  Expansion of an existing program within the applicant organization
- D.  Extension of an existing program to a new setting

4. Please describe your project. How will it address each of the five Community Connectors core principles and what outcomes will you use to measure success.

We are holding a 3-day/2-night Sports Camp. Students will learn to set goals athletically and academically so they will start thinking about what their path in life looks like. We will have breakout sessions where each student will be challenged to assess their character strengths and weaknesses and improve upon them moving forward. Coaches and college mentors will assist the students in this process and will follow up with them throughout the year to see if these goals are being met. During the final session of camp, we will challenge the students to communicate their goals and future positive pathway with their parents and coaches that they return to during the summer and school year. Each student will leave the camp thinking about their future plans, and also with a tangible roadmap for how to attain these goals. Sports, by nature, give athletes the choice to either be resilient or to quit. Our college students and coaches will spend 72 hours encouraging these middle school students to be resilient in all things. They will do it in a positive, life-lasting manner, that the students will remember, because this camp is a relational camp. The tenants of an FCA camp are centered around a Biblical view that God gives us hope for a positive future. The atmosphere of positive mentors and coaches, combined with the promises God gives in Scripture will set each camper up for the brightest of futures, with limitless hope.

5. Please describe the specific activities your program will conduct.

We will have 10 hours of athletic instruction and competition (over three days) where the campers are actively participating in their sport of choice. This will be supplemented by 5 hours of small group discussion with their mentor (a college athlete) and 3 different large group services (totaling 6 hours) for all 100 students to come together with their coaches and mentors in a unifying, culturally diverse, setting. There will be plenty of time for fun as well, so that the students can connect on a personal level with their mentors. There is a 1-mile walking trail through the camp which is perfect for times of reflection and prayer. We will also have times of recreation and laughter around the Foosball table. There will be an encouraging band that connects everyone through music and lots of in-depth conversations had around the table during breakfast, lunch and dinner. The best part of camp though, will be the opportunity each mentor has to pour into the lives of these middle school students that are simply looking for someone who cares about them and can help them navigate the muddy waters of junior high. I'm excited for the lifetime bonds that will be formed and the future impacts these 3 days (and follow up emails and texts) will have on these 7th and 8th graders lives.

6. Discuss how the program will utilize best practices to ensure program success. Are there successful mentor programs after which you will model your program? Please name the program and describe what makes it successful.

Fellowship of Christian Athletes has an in-depth application process for each of our college mentors and coaches. These applications highlight not only behavioral qualifications, but also social and emotional competence. This is a system that has been in place for years, nationally, and we are excited to be a part of it, for the first time this summer. Our mentors and coaches will go through pre-camp training as well that will equip them with the necessary tools to connect with their students on a mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual level. Although this is a sports camp, the main goal for the camp is not athletic improvement. The main goal is the personal enrichment and development of each student that attends.

7. Describe your organization's previous experience with this type of program OR a program of a similar scale, including previous evaluations, size and duration of previously implemented programs, goals, and outcomes.

Fellowship of Christian Athletes has been doing these types of camps for 60 years. They have improved upon the aspects of camp that have worked best to impact the lives of students, and have changed the things that may not have been as effective. We have such a wealth of knowledge and experience to lean on at our national office in Kansas City. They guide us through the process of running an effective, and heart-capturing camp. They also give us the freedom to adapt the camp based on the local climate and needs of a particular area. We have all the tools to make it a positive experience, while fine-tuning the camp to fit the climate in West-Central Ohio.

8. What will make this collaboration successful? What will the indicator(s) of success be for this collaboration?

We have great schools that want to see their kids grow that will be feeding their students to our camp. We have an active business partner that has already invested heavily, both financially, and with in-kind gifts and time. We have a seamless working relationship with all parties involved, with one common mindset to do whatever we can to have the biggest impact on the youth here in West-Central Ohio.

## **Application Section II: Program Management**

9. Leadership Team: The leadership team should be comprised of no less than one member of each partnering organization. Please provide a brief bio of each leadership team member, including a brief description of the team member's passion for the program and interest in working with young people. Bios should also include:

- Name and title
- Responsibilities for this grant project. (Percent of time should be included in the budget document.)
- Qualifications
- Prior relevant experience

Andy Lynch - Sports Anchor WTLW-TV and Area Rep for Fellowship of Christian Athletes. (Huddle Leader Director and Camp Program Director) – Andy has been connecting with students his entire life as a TV-Sportscaster that focuses on high school sporting events in Alaska (2001-2004) and Lima, OH (2005-Present). Last year, he stepped into a part-time role at the TV station (WTLW-TV) to focus more on mentoring and encouraging students as the area

rep for District 8 FCA. He oversees the activity of 60 schools districts and 4 colleges, in 8 different counties. He has 2 young kids that he and his wife Leah adopted.

Nick Schulze - (Business partner - owner of Schulze Services) - longtime Celina D.A.R.E. officer and current probation officer in Mercer county. He is also a longtime board member at the Maria Stein Spiritual Center in Maria Stein, OH.

Jason Andrew (School partner) - Teacher at Celina high school. *Mr. Andrew taught for six years at Sylvania Northview High School (near Toledo), served as the Athletic Director at St. Marys Memorial H.S. for two years and is now in his ninth year at Celina High School.* He is also an assistant track and field Coach at Celina.

10. A timeline of all major activities must be provided. Assessment, planning and initial training must be completed by September 7, 2015. Services must begin by September 7, 2015.

April 2014 – I went on staff with FCA giving the area it's first dedicated Area Rep.

May 2014 – I met with Nick Schulze (Business partner) to talk about bringing Jr. high camp to the area

August 2014 – I met with the Maria Stein Spiritual Center to go over facilities.

November 2014 – I went to FCA Camp school in Kansas City, MO to learn how to put on a camp.

January 2015- I have been lining up Coaches and College athletes to serve as Mentor for the Camp

April 2015 – A Good Friday 5k event to raise money for camp will take place at Allen County Fairgrounds (Lima).

April 2015 – Camp registration will open.

June 15, 2015 – Orientation training for Coaches and College athletes.

June 16 – 18 – Camp!

June/July – Initial follow up with parents (by me) and with students (by huddle leaders).

August-June – monthly check-in's by the College huddle leaders with their students. (We will provide a dozen addressed and stamped envelopes for each huddle member, so that the College students can send notes to their athletes each month).

11. Describe the implementation process for reaching the following milestones:

- a. Screening, orientation, supporting, and monitoring process for mentors and other personnel working directly with youth;
- b. Identification and intake process for mentees;
- c. The means by which you will involve families of youth in your program; ongoing training of mentors throughout the life of the program, including topics and frequency;
- d. Assessing fiscal accountability and faithful implementation of project plans; and
- e. Any other critical information you would want the Community Connectors team to know.
  - a. Each mentor has a background check done and an extensive application which can be found at [fca.org/mla](http://fca.org/mla)
  - b. We will be talking with coaches and teachers and many schools on the under-achieving school list, so they can recommend students who could use this kind of camp.
  - c. Families will be welcomed when they drop their kids off at camp and given a synopsis of what we will be covering. Then at pick-up, mentors will connect with the families of campers, letting them know that they will be in touch with the kids on a monthly basis.
  - d. We will follow our budget to a 't' and have all records available. Our governing FCA District 8 board will also be overseeing the budget and spending, as will the national FCA office in Kansas City, MO.

12. Describe how each applicant partner plans to contribute to the overall program plan including, but not limited to, time contribution, personnel contribution, monetary contribution, shared responsibilities, use of facilities, etc. Complete the Roles and Responsibilities worksheet attachment.

1. Faith Based Organization (FCA)

- a. Time – 100 hours in preparation/production/promotion. 72 hours at camp.
- b. Personnel – 5 people connected to FCA , 10 coaches, 20 college athletes
- c. Monetary - \$1000
- d. Shared – coordinating all the people, resources and program

2. School district partner (Celina)

- a. Time contribution – 10 hours assisting in writing the grant, publicizing the camp, and identifying students who would be well served by this particular camp.
- b. Personnel – Jason Andrew (teacher) and Dan Otten (Track and field coach)
- c. Monetary – none
- d. Shared – proposing and executing the grant. Making sure everything is in place for it.
- e. Providing students for the camp

3. Business Partner (Nick Schulze)

- a. Time – 20 hours in preparation and 72 hours at the camp
- b. Personnel – Family of 6 will be helping at the camp

- c. Monetary - \$1000
- d. Shared – coordinating the facilities/trainers/coaches/buses/timing of events. Go-between at the Maria Stein Spiritual Center.

### **Application Section III: Evaluation Plan**

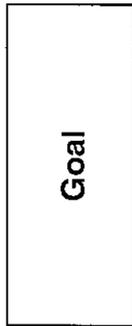
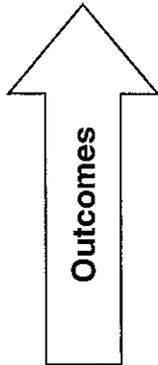
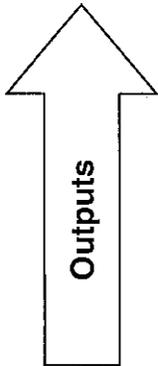
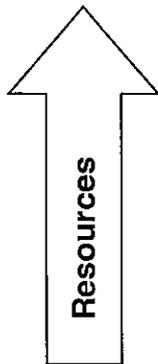
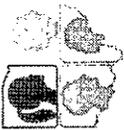
13. The evaluation plan is intended to provide lead organizations with a framework that will ensure the program is on track to positively impact the lives of students and identify needs for additional support when challenges arise. Each evaluation plan must list the scope of work and describe the following:
- a. Plans for keeping records of mentor contact hours, unduplicated count of students served each month, mentor training hours, etc. for ongoing reporting;
  - b. Gathering of data to measure progress of program towards meeting the selected goals;
  - c. Projected indicators of success; and
  - d. Anticipated barriers to successful evaluation including data collection and measurement of progress toward outcomes.
- a. All mentors and coaches will have the same number of hours during camp. We will then have a database for the mentors to keep track of follow-up hours once camp is over.
- b. The database will require mentors to record how their mentees are doing and what positive (and negative) changes they are noticing in them each month. We will evaluate these as we prepare for the next's year camp, so we can tweak or re-focus our attention on needs that are not being met. We will be a work in progress as we look to make this FCA camp fit best here in West-Central Ohio.
- c. Success= a flourishing student. That includes characteristics like joy, success in the classroom, success on the athletic field and success in involvement with other students, in social situations. We want to build leaders for our high schools, but ultimately for our future.
- d. College students will need to be reminded sometimes to check in with their mentees as the college life becomes a busy one. But I am confident that the bonds that are built during camp will encourage College students to stay in touch with their mentees.

14. Applicants are to complete the program model.

### **Application Section IV: Sustainability**

15. Describe how you plan to maintain the program after the grant funding period. Include a discussion about financial sustainability and sustainability of the partnership commitment. Applicants are not required to include cash as part of their local contributions; however, funding sustainability is critical to the Community Connectors program. Applicants that show the potential for funding sustainability will be given preference in application scoring.

We are confident that once local businesses and service clubs get to see (and experience) camp first-hand, they will invest in it for the future. We will invite key individuals from the community to come observe different portions of camp, and then will record and distribute testimonials from campers and college students alike. Since I am also a TV-reporter, I can publicize the great ways camp is impacting lives and making our youth into the leaders of tomorrow through stories and interviews.



**What resources will be needed to conduct this program?**

Mentors  
Coaches  
Recreation Center  
Athletic equipment  
Bibles  
Books  
Shirts  
Meals

**What will we do with the resources?**

Equip each of the 100 students & 20 mentors to begin a mentoring program that will last a lifetime

**Briefly describe the number of students engaged and the number of adults involved.**

100 jr high students  
13 college students  
7+ HS coaches

**What are the short or intermediate term results that will be achieved?**

1. Setting goals to be prepared for 21<sup>st</sup> century careers
2. Building character
3. Developing pathways to achievement
4. Building resiliency
5. Believing in a positive future

**What are the long term results that will be achieved?**

Strengthen communities, encourage mentoring opportunities, and create new pathways for civic engagement that will result in higher educational achievement, higher levels of well-being, and health and workforce readiness for our state.

**Application Section V: Program Budget**

16. Complete the budget form attachment and justify each of the budget items by creating a budget justification.

✓ 

*By clicking this box, x I (Insert Name) Andy Lynch agree, on behalf of this applicant, and any or all identified partners, that this application and all supporting documents contain information approved by a relevant executive board or its equivalent.*