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Adjusted Allocation: 0.00

Remaining: -485,000.00
### A) APPLICANT INFORMATION - General Information, Experience and Capacity

1. **Project Title:** Fire Fighter/EMS Program

2. **Executive Summary:** Provide an executive summary of your project proposal and which goal(s) in question 9 you seek to achieve. Please limit your responses to no more than three sentences.

   As the fire fighter and emergency medical services workforce continues to retire in the Miami Valley and across the State of Ohio, there is a distinct need to offer a training program in a high school setting that will provide for the next generation of highly trained professionals. Coupled with the statement above, the goal of the proposal is to reduce the costs of the Miami Valley Career Technology Center (MVCTC) district by eliminating a career-technical program (masonry) that is not sustainable and modify the facility, purchase equipment and supplies, and develop the appropriate curriculum to provide highly-trained graduates which have a direct path into a two-year associates degree program. In addition to eliminating the expenses associated with the masonry program, the new program will attract 40-50 students to the district in the first two years and will increase the district's overall sustainability with a revenue producing career-technical program that solves a work force issue in the five county greater Miami Valley region.

3. **50 Total Students Impacted:**

4. **Lead applicant primary contact:**

   - First Name, last Name of contact for lead applicant: Nicholas Weldy
   - Organizational name of lead applicant: Miami Valley Career Technology Center (MVCTC)
   - Unique Identifier (RIN/Fed Tax ID): RIN 051284
   - Address of lead applicant: 6800 Hoke Road, Clayton, OH 45315
   - Phone Number of lead applicant: 937-854-6272
   - Email Address of lead applicant: nweldy@mvctc.com

5. **Secondary applicant contact:**

   - First Name, last Name of contact for secondary applicant: N/A
   - Organizational name of secondary applicant: N/A
   - Unique Identifier (RIN/Fed Tax ID): N/A
   - Address of secondary applicant: N/A
   - Phone number of secondary applicant: N/A
   - Email address of secondary applicant: N/A

6. **Partnership and consortia agreements and letters of support:**

   - Letters of support are for districts in academic or fiscal distress only. If school or district is in academic or fiscal distress and has a commission assigned, please include a resolution from the commission in support of the project.

   - If a partnership or consortium will be established, please include the signed Straight A Description of Nature of Partnership or Description of Nature of Consortium Agreement.

7. **Partnership and consortia agreements and letters of support:**

   - If applicable, please provide necessary documents.

8. **Project Description - Overall description of project and alignment with Outcomes**

   - Which of the following best describes the proposed project? (Select one):
     - Student achievement
     - Spending reductions in the five-year fiscal forecast
     - Utilization of a greater share of resources in the classroom

9. **Which of the stated Straight A Fund goals does the proposal aim to achieve?**

   - (Check all that apply)
     - New - never before implemented
     - Existing and research-based - never implemented in your district or community school but proven successful in other educational environments
     - Mixed Concept - incorporates new and existing elements
     - Enhancing/Scale Up - elevating or expanding an effective program that is already implemented in your district, school, or consortia partnership

10. **Which of the following best describes the proposed project?**

    - (Select one)
      - N/A

11. **Describe the innovative project.**

    - It is proposed that the MVCTC, located in Montgomery County, Ohio, receive funding to open a fire fighter/EMS training program that will serve the Miami Valley region and be a viable educational option for current and senior students in 27 associate school districts over a five county area. The program would also be aligned with the MVCTC Adult Education program which provides a pathway to paramedic certification, as well as Sinclair Community College where a student may earn their Associates Degree in this same career pathway. In a research study conducted by Dr. Richard Stock in 2011-12, there are between 1110 and 1177 estimated dropouts within Montgomery County, just one of the counties served by the MVCTC (Stock, Evaluation Report, p.4-5). Of those estimated annual dropouts, it is estimated that only 200 of these students are currently being served by other alternative, credit-recovery schools in Montgomery County. Career-technical education provides an alternative to students who become disengaged with regular school settings. A program such as this would appeal to those students who desire to be career ready but also qualified to pursue college credentials upon graduation.

    - The dropout issue coupled with the shortage of qualified applicants in the fire/EMS profession is an ongoing concern in the Miami Valley and the State of Ohio. Before proposing this grant application, the MVCTC district sent over 72 letters to fire department and EMS chiefs in five counties to gather their input on the current state of the profession. After holding several meetings on the MVCTC campus with these individuals, it has become apparent there is a dire need for such an educational option. Current training efforts offered by others are random at best and high school students often do not have access to the training they need to competently and safely enter the profession. The chiefs attending the meetings have agreed to be part of an on-going program advisory committee and provide guidance on the curriculum, equipment and supply needs, training facilities, and employer needs. This group helps to solidify the expertise needed to develop a real-world training program. The committee has pledged to help donate equipment and supplies once the program is in place and they serve on the advisory committee on a volunteer basis, thus incurring no cost to the district. The MVCTC district has sent administrators to more than 10 current fire fighter/EMS training programs located across the State of Ohio at various career-technical centers. Detailed notes and photos have been taken and organized and presented to the administrative team and the fire fighter/EMS advisory team to ensure that this proposal addresses an urgent workforce need in the region and that the MVCTC is the ideal location to support
12. Describe how it will meet the goal(s) selected above. - If school/district receives school improvement funds/support, include a brief explanation of how this project will advance the improvement plan.

The funding and implementation of this program will meet all three goals of the Straight A Fund Grant. The first goal is to increase student achievement. Currently, high school students attempting to enter the fire fighter/EMS profession must learn ‘on the job’ at a local firehouse and have little access to formal training in the profession as well as needed exposure to formal safety training. Any training provided to high school students in this capacity inures a substantial cost to the fire departments who have limited funds to support the recruitment and training of the next generation of professionals. Student achievement will be measured by the percentage of students earning the Fire Fighter I and Fire Fighter II certifications. In addition, students will be prepared to take the EMT-B test and will be provided training and relevant work experience to diversify the best possible career opportunities. Certification in these programs are required for employment in the fire service and as mentioned above, adult education as well as educational institutions.

The second goal is to provide an additional $50,000 to invest in the renovations of the facility. The district requests $200,000 for the purpose of facility upgrades. This is to convert the current outdated masonry facility to reflect the current needs of a modern day firehouse and EMS station. The modifications will also provide an ADA (Americans with Disability Act) compliant bathroom facility for hospital procedures for the injured, and homeland security exercises.

The third goal is to utilize a greater share of the resources in the classroom. This would be accomplished by sharing the equipment used in the fire fighter/EMS program with other public safety/technical programs that are offered by the MVCTC, including Allied Health, Criminal Justice, Air Force ROTC, Sports Medicine, and, as mentioned above, adult education. All of these programs would have access to equipment and curriculum used in the fire fighter/EMS program. In addition, it would permit for cross-training between the programs and the opportunity for joint exercises in emergency preparation, pre-hospital procedures for the injured, and homeland security exercises.

C) SUSTAINABILITY - Planning for ongoing funding of the project, cost breakdown

13. Financial Documentation - All applicants must enter or upload the following supporting information. Responses should refer to specific information in the financial documents when applicable:

a. Enter a project budget
b. Upload the Straight A Financial Impact Template forecasting the expected changes to the five-year forecast resulting from implementation of this project. If applying as a consortia or partnership, please include the five-year forecasts of each school district, community school or STEM school member for review.

c. If subsection (b) is not applicable, please explain why, in addition to how the project will demonstrate sustainability and impact.

14. What is the total cost for implementing the innovative project?

485,000.00 * Total project cost

* Provide a brief narrative explanation of the overall budget. The narrative should include the source and amount of other funds that may be used to support this concept (e.g., Title I funding, RTT money, local funding, foundation support, etc.).

15. What new/recurring costs of your innovative project will continue once the grant has expired? If there are no new/recurring costs, please explain why.

0.00 * Specific amount of new/recurring cost (annual cost after project is implemented)

* Narrative explanation/note: Provide details on the cost of items included in the budget (i.e. staff counts and salary/benefits, equipment to be purchased and cost, etc.). If there are no new/recurring costs, please explain why.

16. Are there expected savings that may result from the implementation of the innovative project?

125,000.00 * Specific amount of expected savings (annual)

* Narrative explanation/note: Provide details on the anticipated savings (i.e. staff counts and salary/benefits, equipment to be purchased and cost, etc.)

17. Provide a brief explanation of how the project is self-sustaining. If there are ongoing costs associated with the project after the term of the grant, this explanation should provide details on the cost reductions that will be made that are at least equal to the amount of new/recurring costs detailed above. If there are no new/recurring costs, explain in detail how this project will sustain itself beyond the life of the grant.

18. Fill in the appropriate dates and an explanation of the timeline for the successful implementation of this project. In each explanation, be sure to briefly describe the largest barriers that could derail your concept or timeline for implementation and your plan to proactively mitigate such barriers. In addition, the narrative should list the stakeholders that will be engaged during that stage of the project and describe the communication and application that was developed.

Describe the ongoing communication plan with the stakeholders as the project is implemented. (Stakeholders can include parents, community leaders, foundation support and businesses, as well as educational personnel in the affected entities.)

D) IMPLEMENTATION - Timeline, communication and contingency planning

1. Implement (MM/DD/YYYY): 10/01/2013

* Narrative explanation

2. Financial analysis of current MVCTC career-technical (CT) programs. Closure of masonry program based upon pre-determined factors and predicted annual cost. 2. Exploration of demand career-technical (CT) programs. 3. Held a meeting with local fire chiefs to determine needs of the five county region (representing 27 school districts) and skills required to be successful in this profession. 4. Research best practices within fire fighter/EMS training programs across the State of Ohio.

* Narrative explanation

* Specific amount of new/recurring cost (annual cost after project is implemented)

1. Proposal Timeline Dates

Plan (MM/DD/YYYY): 10/01/2013

2. Recruit new students from the community.

Implement (MM/DD/YYYY): 1/01/2014

* Narrative explanation
events and student visits. Open house to invite parents of potential students to campus to learn more about this new program. Communicate via news releases what the new program will prepare students for; certifications they can obtain by taking this program, and what post-secondary options and jobs are available to students that complete this program. Start to accept application materials for the fire fighter/EMS program for 2014-15. April 2014 - a. All initial applications would be reviewed by the end of April. Potential barrier could be not having enough students signed up by April which would require the MVCTC to continue marketing efforts. We will need the assistance of the associate school counselors and fire fighter/EMS departments to get past this potential barrier. Parents will need to see this as a viable career option for their student. 3. May-June 2014 - a. Instructor hired b. Modify facilities c. Hold an Advisory Committee meeting with fire-fighter/EMS departments to update them on the progress and areas where advice or help is needed d. Communicate to associate schools, business partners, communities, and other interested parties about the modified facilities and new instructor. 4. June-July 2014 - a. In conjunction with Fire Chiefs and EMS personnel, identify equipment and supplies to be purchased. b. Order supplies and equipment for early August delivery. 5. August 2014 - a. Final modifications on facilities and delivery of remaining equipment and supplies b. Fire Fighter/EMS instructor will begin initial training at MVCTC before other staff and students arrive. c. New instructor will be assigned a mentor d. Start new program with Fire Fighter I and II state-aligned curriculum, and related state-recognized certifications, as well as preparation for the EMT-B test, all three of which are necessary for gainful employment. 6. September 2014 - a. Advisory Committee meeting to reflect on progress and continuing needs b. Review Advisory Committee input and begin recruitment process for the second year of program based on their recommendations

Summative evaluation

1. August 2014 - a. Determine enrollment numbers b. Collect demographic and initial academic performance data c. Collect data on non-traditional participation 2. September-October 2014 - Meet with Advisory Committee to evaluate initial enrollment numbers and other relevant data 3. February-May 2014 - a. Collect applications for 2015 fire-fighter/EMS students b. Evaluate program applications c. If there is an increasing trend in the number of applicants, we will determine if there is a substantial increase in academic attainment of Ohio, MVCTC reported a school completion rate of 96.26 percent; academic attainment in math of 96.0 percent; and academic attainment in language arts of 95.1 percent. MVCTC also reported a post program placement rate of 90.95 percent. This indicates that over 90 percent of MVCTC graduates, were working, completing post-secondary education, or in the military one year after completing their programs at MVCTC. The MVCTC technical skill attainment rate was reported at 79.2 percent, showing that over 79 percent of MVCTC graduates were able to pass the national achievement test. In the state of Ohio, we have an average state benchmark.

2. Is this project able to be replicated in other districts in Ohio?

*Yes*

3. If so, how?

Once the program is fully implemented, it could be a model for career-technical or compact school districts. In many communities, there is a lack of resources to properly train and maintain a professionally trained fire-fighter/EMS staff. Training has become harder to obtain and, as many students approach retirement age, there is a shortage of young men and women entering the profession due to the shortage of professionals in the fire-fighter/EMS profession is an ongoing concern in the Miami Valley and the State of Ohio. Before proposing this grant application, the MVCTC district sent over 72 letters to fire fighters and police officers in five community colleges in our five county area to gather input on the need for training facilities. The group has pledged to help donate equipment and supplies since the program is in place, helping to reduce the cost of the program. In addition, they will serve on the advisory committee on a volunteer basis, thus incurring no cost to the district.

4. What are the specific benchmarks related to the fund goals identified in question 9 that the project aims to achieve in five years? Include any other anticipated outcomes of the project that you hope to achieve that may not be easily measured.

Program achievement: High school student program enrollment and successful high school graduation will be major benchmarks used to measure interest in and success of the program. Once the first class has completed the program in FY 2016, further measures will include the passage rate of the Fire Fighter I and Fire Fighter II tests as well as other in-house curriculum measures. As the district produces graduates, we will then be able to track their job and post-secondary placement rates to ensure that both are meeting the goals of the program. MVCTC will continue to use the technical skill attainment, academic attainment, program completion rates and post-program placement rates to measure the success of the fire-fighter/EMS program, with a five-year goal of meeting or exceeding the state benchmarks. See question 18 for greater detail and a timeline in reference to completing these goals. Spending reductions in the five-year fiscal forecast: Annual examination of the district five-year forecast to monitor the reduction of expenses compared to prior fiscal years when the masonry program was in operation. Utilization of a greater share of resources in the classroom: Under the current budget restrictions, the fire-fighter/EMS program will use a greater share of resources in the classroom. The group has pledged to help donate equipment and supplies once the program is in place, helping to reduce the cost of the program. In addition, they will serve on the advisory committee on a volunteer basis, thus incurring no cost to the district.

5. What are the specific program measures and controls that you plan to use to ensure that the program is implemented as planned?

*Include the method by which progress toward short- and long-term objectives will be measured. (This section should include the types of data to be collected, the formative outputs and outcomes and the systems in place to track the program's progress).*
Dr. Nick Weldy, MVCTC Supt. 10/25/2013