

LMDC Proposed Project Information Form

Name of Organization: Manhattan Youth Recreation and Resources

Contact Person: [REDACTED]

Telephone No.: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Capital Project

Non-Capital Project

Total Project Budget: \$1,537,346

LMDC Funds Requested: \$650,000

Other Committed Funding Sources: Manhattan Youth revenue from earned income.

Project Description (include specific details regarding proposed use of LMDC funds):

In 2008, Manhattan Youth opened its Downtown Community Center, a project that had been delayed for years by the events of 9-11-01. This was the first community center built downtown, and funds from LMDC helped make this community project a reality.

Lower Manhattan has experienced incredible growth since that time, and 2,739 new apartment units will be added in 2016 according to a Community Board One study. The youth population will continue to grow apace, according to the same study. This expansion will increase the need for a host of community programs, including after-school childcare and programs for senior citizens.

We're asking the LMDC to consider helping Manhattan Youth with funding our free senior program, which has no income stream, and our program of financial assistance that allows financially-struggling families to enroll their children in our after-school programs in Lower Manhattan elementary schools.

1. **Free senior swim program:** Currently there is no funding for this beloved program. Seniors from all over Lower Manhattan come to swim for an hour and half every weekday. They also participate in senior aerobics and use the steam room. This is not only an opportunity to swim but it is a place for seniors to get together and share community with each other and with families and children who come to the center during the day.

This program costs Manhattan Youth approximately \$300,000 per year in swimming pool staff, materials, facility costs and administration. Manhattan Youth asks LMDC for a grant of \$150,000 over two years to help defray our two-

year cost of \$600,000 for this free program that is vital to the health and well-being of our seniors in Lower Manhattan.

- 2. Financial assistance for childcare in after-school programs and summer camp programs:** Our Manhattan Youth After-School programs in Lower Manhattan elementary schools continue to grow, along with our full-day summer camp programs. These are critical for working families who must provide care for their children for the entire day during the summer, and during school from the 3 PM dismissal to the end of the workday. Manhattan Youth operates these programs on a fee-for-service basis, but as we expand, we encounter increasing numbers of families do not have the ability to pay. In our fiscal year ended 8/31/2015, Manhattan Youth granted \$468,673 in financial assistance that enabled families to enroll their children in our programs. This is verified need; Manhattan Youth receives tax returns along with verification of income, rental expense, and other financial data prior to awarding financial assistance for each family.

Manhattan Youth asks LMDC for a grant of \$500,000 over two years to help defray our two-year cost of \$937,346 (based on fy2015 costs) for financial assistance that enables families to enroll their children in critically-important after-school and summer camp programs.

Performance Targets/Deliverables:

We expect to enroll 200 seniors to be active in our senior swim program each year.

We expect more than 100 families to receive financial assistance each year for our after-school and summer camp programs.

Beneficiaries:

Senior Citizens who participate in our senior swim program.

Families and children who are enrolled in our elementary-school after-school programs and our summer camp programs.

Anticipated Start Date: January 1, 2016 **Estimated Completed Date:** December 31 2017