

**To:** Education Foundation of Indian River County C/O Mr. Douglas Herron

**From:** Leif Mieras, Science Instructor-Botany and Environmental Science, Indian River Charter High School

**Date:** August 31, 2021

**Project name:** IRCHS Garden Project

**Project information:** A Native Florida Plant Garden is to be designed and planted on the Indian River Charter High School Campus. Land has been committed. My Botany class will help grow native species of plants and help me design an inviting garden for the campus.

**How the project aligns with the SDIRC Strategic Plan:** Inclusive community grows with common goals and invitations to be a part of something larger than ourselves. This garden project will be open to the campus community and will be a place for classes and student groups to gather for years to come.

**Amount requested:** \$2,544.53

**Total project cost:** \$2,544.53

**Targeted population:** High School Students grades 9-12, Botany and Environmental Sciences

**The Issue – What challenge of opportunity will this grant help your school address?:**

Today's students are having a hard time seeing themselves as stewards of their school, community, land, etc. I would like to use this opportunity to challenge students on our campus to help organize, design, and work together to build something beautiful that they can enjoy and then also hand off to the next generation of students on our campus.

**The Change – What change do you intend to see as a result of this grant?**

With this grant, I intend to see students fully engage with on campus beautification and hands-on learning in the field of landscape design, naturoscaping, soil conservation, and water retention. I'd like to get a larger group of students taking ownership of community care and development.

**The Action – What strategic activities will be included in this grant (what are the steps)?**

First, we will amend the soil to hold water properly and prepare beds using natural materials (logs, branches, mulch, composted soil). Then, my students will be studying native florida plants in class and propagating larger numbers of each species through plant culture and other natural approaches. We will then organize garden beds to produce a beautiful and natural landscape that will require little to no maintenance in the future.

**Grant oversight:**

Leif Mieras will be responsible for the project. My direct supervisor, Nicole Moreaux, will be observing my progress and ensuring that my approach in the classroom and in the garden is sustainable.

**Monitoring progress and results:**

Leif Mieras will be monitoring project progress and sustainability and volunteering time after school when necessary to ensure success. Botany students will be participating in monitoring results of plant health and growth.

**Volunteers:** This Project will have sustained opportunities for volunteers in garden maintenance as well as future design projects. We already partner with the LRJ House on our neighboring property and will continue to provide opportunities for students and community members to see beauty grow in natural and sustainable ways.

**Itemized budget:**

<b>IRCHS Garden Supplies:</b>	<b>Budgeted Cost:</b>
<b>Tools:</b>	
Bedding Fork x2	\$85.96
Pitchfork	\$42.98
Hand Trowl x5	\$32.30
Pruning Snips	\$15.95
Pruning Shears x2	\$45.48
Garden Knife	\$21.99
Bow Rake x2	\$35.96
Shovel x2	\$17.96
Spade shovel	\$16.98
hose x3	\$119.97
wheel barrow	\$109.00
<b>Tools Total:</b>	<b>\$544.53</b>
<b>Material:</b>	
Mulch, Soil, Plants	\$2,000.00
Shed	\$400.00
<b>Total Materials:</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>
<b>Project Total:</b>	<b>\$2,544.53</b>