FILE NO. 990-2025-A

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECRATION
2025 Legislative Summary
Summer Youth Baseball & Softball Program

BACKGROUND

DIVISION:	Recreation
ORDINANCE NO:	Ord. No. 990-2025
LEGISLATIVE PURPOSE:	Passage of this legislation authorizes the Department of Parks and Recreation to accept a Grant to offer a wide range of baseball and softball activities for youth/teenagers residing in the City of Cleveland, free of charge.
DESCRIPTION:	This project offers a wide range of baseball and softball activities for youth/teenagers residing in the City of Cleveland, free of charge. Participants remain engaged during the summer with fun, safe, and constructive team pursuits, while meeting new friends and learning about the sports of baseball and girls fast-pitch softball.
TERM:	June 2, 2025 through August 8, 2025
AMOUNT:	$80,000.00 (Recreation Services Grant award) • Not a matching grant
FUNDING SOURCE:	Cleveland Guardians Charities Department 4503-Fund- 15 Sub-fund 449

The estimated number of youth:

- 55 Teams
- 675 Participants
- Will utilize 25 plus diamonds located across the City. Over 100 fields are available.
- Approximate number of games to be played per division: 6-8 games

2025 City of Cleveland, Division of Recreation
Cleveland Guardians Charities – Grant Award Letter
March 20, 2025

The Board of Directors of the Cleveland Guardians Charities (CGC) has approved a grant of $80,000 to the City of Cleveland, Division of Recreation (Cleveland Recreation) baseball and softball programs for the 2025 season. The grant funds will be used as described in the Proposal and Budget (hereinafter called the "Approved Project"). The project will be conducted under your direction subject to the following terms.

Payment of grant funds.
Payment of the grant funds will be made in multiple installments by CGC. Upon receipt by CGC of a countersigned copy of this letter, 50% of the grant funds ($40,000) will be paid to Cleveland Recreation. The remaining portion of grant funds ($40,000) (the Remaining Funds) will be disbursed upon completion or demonstrated best-effort attempts to fulfill the deliverables outlined in this Grant Award Letter, as determined by CGC. The Remaining Funds are not guaranteed. Please ensure that appropriate support documentation (i.e. grant application, nonprofit designation etc.) is submitted to CGC. To facilitate your receipt of this payment, please indicate below the contact information for the person in your organization who will accept the check on Cleveland, Recreation's behalf.

These terms apply to your organization's use of the grant:

1. **Use of Grant Funds –** Under United States law, grant funds and income earned thereon, may be expended only for charitable, religious, scientific, literary, or educational purposes. This grant is made only for the purposes stated in this Grant Award Letter and outlined in your proposal, and it is understood that these grant funds will be used for such purposes substantially in accordance with the approved budget presented in Exhibit A. **It is also understood that no variances in the Approved Project can be made without CGC's prior approval in writing.** CGC understands that the budget is subject to change based on how your league progresses. Should any changes to the budget exceed 10% of any category, Cleveland Recreation shall provide an updated budget to CGC for approval, which shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed.
2. **Use of income** - CGC encourages, whenever feasible, the deposit of grant funds in an interest-bearing account. All earnings accrued on such accounts are to be expended in direct support of the project funded through this grant. Any grant funds, and any income earned thereon, not expended, or committed for the purposes of the grant must be returned to CGC by the earlier of (i) the end of the project period, or (ii) two years following the date of this Grant Award Letter.
3. **No lobbying –** The grant funds may not be used for any of the following purposes: (a) to influence the outcome of any specific election for candidates to public office; (b) to attempt to influence legislation, within the meaning of Section 4945(d)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (Code), as interpreted by its accompanying regulations; or (c) to carry on, directly or indirectly, a voter registration drive within the meaning of Code Section 4945(d)(2), as interpreted by its accompanying regulations.

4. **Required reports** – This grant shall be accounted for separately on your books of account and expenditures made in furtherance of the Approved Project must be charged against the grant account. Adequate records must be kept which make it possible to enable the use of the grant funds to be readily reviewed and monitored by CGC if necessary. Interim reports are to be furnished to CGC on or before December 31st of each calendar year, and a final written report, based on the submitted request and signed by an authorized officer of your organization, is to be furnished to CGC no later than 30 days following final expenditure of the grant funds. Final report guidelines will be sent to you prior to the termination of the grant. A final budget report is required of all non-operating grants and should reflect expenditures of the grant funds, and any income earned thereon, according to the categories of the approved budget, as of the end of the period covered by the report. The financial statements provided to CGC must also reflect expenditures of any income earned on the grant funds. All accounting records related to this grant, including copies of the reports submitted to us, must be kept for at least four years, and made available to us at reasonable times upon our request.

5. **Evaluation and monitoring** – CGC may monitor and conduct an evaluation of operations under this grant, which may include a visit from CGC representatives or other personnel to observe your organization's program, discuss the program with your organization's personnel, and review financial and other records and materials in connection with the activities financed by this grant.

6. **Publicity** – CGC may include basic information about this grant in its public reports and may also refer to the grant in press releases, on our website, and through CGC's other communications channels. If you plan to make a public announcement of this grant at your organization, or if you would like to coordinate a public announcement of your grant with the Foundation, we ask you to contact CGC in advance of such public announcement. CGC reserves the right to approve any public statements that reference the grant.

7. **Tax status** – It is understood that by countersigning this letter, your organization represents and warrants that (i) it is a government agency or has been determined by the Internal Revenue Service to be an organization described in section 501(c)3 of the Code, (ii) it is not a private foundation as described in section 509(a) of the Code, and (iii) such determinations have not been revoked or modified and continue in full force and effect. If the organization's tax status should changes, please notify CGC immediately. No payment hereunder shall be required to be made at any time after your organization ceases to be a government agency or an organization that is both described in section 501(c)3 and is not a private foundation.

8. **Logo Use** –The Cleveland Guardians Play Ball! CLE or Diamond C logo will be prominently featured on team uniforms. The organization and its members will refrain from using any intellectual property of the Cleveland Guardians Baseball Company, LLC (Club) including the Club's trademarks, and shall refrain from publicly describing any affiliation with the Club without the Club's express written approval.

Deliverables.

I. **LeagueApps Registration** – Success with this deliverable will be measured by efforts to ensure that each team has 100% registration for all athletes and coaches, with registration completed prior to the start any scheduled practice or game, using a designated Microsoft Excel document, formatted for direct upload into Cleveland Guardians software tools.

II. **Youth Participation Waiver** – Success for this deliverable will be measured by ensuring that 100% of youth athletes and coaches sign the Cleveland Guardians Youth Baseball & Softball waiver.

III. **Positive Coaching Alliance** – Success with this deliverable will be demonstrated by ensuring all baseball and softball coaches commit to attending at least one **FREE** Positive Coaching Alliance training session prior to the start of any scheduled practice or game.

IV. **USA Baseball Abuse Awareness for Adults** – Success with this deliverable will be demonstrated by ensuring all baseball and softball coaches commit to attending at least one **FREE** USA Baseball Abuse Awareness for Adults training session prior to the start of any scheduled practice or game. To access the online training, follow these steps:

- Visit https://usabdevelops.com/page/3532
- Login/Register (a login is required to access the training page).
- Select the second course listed.
- Complete the "Abuse Awareness Training for Adults" session.

USA Baseball Community Coaches Clinic – Success with this deliverable will be demonstrated by encouraging all baseball coaches commit to attending our annual **FREE** USA Baseball Community Coaches Clinic prior to the start of any scheduled practice or game.

V. **Equipment Allocation** – Success with this deliverable will be demonstrated by directing equipment related funds towards Pitch In For Baseball & Softball (PIFBS) which provides deeply discounted equipment to schools, recreation centers, and similar programs. City Recreation shall coordinate with PIFBS to identify and fulfill any specific needs.

VI. **Field Usage** – Success for this deliverable will be measured by ongoing collaboration to identify mutually agreed-upon dates and securing necessary permits for Cleveland Guardians and Cleveland Guardians Charities to host community events at baseball and softball fields within city limits, including those renovated by Cleveland Guardians Charities - Talty Field at the Jim Thome All-Star Complex, CC Sabathia Field at Luke Easter Park, and José Ramírez Field. City Recreation acknowledges and agrees that CGC shall be a preferred partner in receiving priority and permits to such fields.

VII. **Pre/Post Season Community Meetings** – Success for this deliverable will be measured by the creation and execution of two (2) City-led meetings—one preseason and one postseason—exclusively for Play Ball! CLE league affiliates. These meetings should be held in a small-group setting, providing league representatives the opportunity to share meaningful feedback on challenges they face. Additionally, City representatives will be able to evaluate concerns and determine if further action is needed.

If this letter correctly sets forth your understanding of the terms of this grant, please indicate your agreement to such terms by having the enclosed copy of this letter countersigned by an authorized officer of your organization and return it to CGC.

We wish you much success.

Sincerely,

Raphael Collins
Assistant Director, Community Impact & Diversity Initiatives
Cleveland Guardians Baseball
rcollins@cleguardians.com
(216) 420-4420

cc: Bob DiBiasio, President, Cleveland Guardians Charities

ACCEPTED AND AGREED.

Grantee Organization: _____

Name (Executive Director or Equivalent): _____

Title: _____

By (Signature): _____

Date: _____

Name (Program Manager or Equivalent): _____

Title: _____

By (Signature): _____

Date: _____

PAYMENT CHECK SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

Organization Name: _____

Charity or Nonprofit EIN: _____

Name: _____

By (Signature): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Exhibit A

Budget

Budget Category	2024 Actual Expenditures	2025 Amount Requested	2025 Amount Awarded
Salaries			
Umpires			
Field Maintenance			
Equipment			
Uniforms			
Awards/Trophies			
TOTAL			