



## **GulfSouth Youth Action Fund**

*A program of Operation REACH, Inc.*

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***"As young leaders and philanthropists, we are united through a common cause—to make a difference in our community."***

### **General Overview**

The **GulfSouth Youth Action Fund (GYAF)** is a youth-led philanthropy initiative developed in conjunction with the Greater New Orleans Foundation (GNOF), and made possible through generous support from GNOF, State Farm Insurance Companies, United Way for the Greater New Orleans Area, InterFaith Works and Rebuilding Our Communities, Inc. The GYAF engages youth as leaders and empowers them with the resources to make strategic investments in youth.

The GulfSouth Youth Action Fund's Youth Advisory Board supports youth-led and youth-driven initiatives that demonstrate the power of youth motivated to create change in their community. Grant awards range from \$500 to \$5,000.

We encourage youth to submit well-written and carefully thought out concepts for our funding consideration.

### **How to Apply for the Money**

1. Read the "Writing your Proposal" section carefully.
2. In your proposal, tell us about your project idea, why you want to do it and how you will make it happen.
3. Prepare a budget. A budget tells us what you will spend the money on and how much everything will cost. This document should include the expenses you anticipate to incur for a specified period of time, as well as earned income that will be generated during the course of the project or program. Attached to this form is a budget template. Please complete it in its entirety and feel free to add budget line items as necessary, along with a corresponding justification of resources.
4. Get your proposal to us by February 22, 2008. If you are mailing it, do so early enough so that we receive it on or before the deadline. **LATE PROPOSALS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.** Mail all proposals to: Operation REACH, Inc., Attention: GYAF RFP Response, 201 St. Charles Avenue, Suite 2560, New Orleans, LA 70170.
5. A complete proposal will consist of :
  - Proposal Cover Sheet (Attachment A)
  - Narrative (no more than three pages)
  - Budget Sheet (Attachment B)
  - Proof of your 501 (c) 3 designation or one from your fiscal sponsor
6. Members of the GulfSouth Youth Action Fund's Youth Advisory Board will read your proposal and make the final funding decision.

### **Eligibility**

The following entities are eligible to submit funding requests to the Gulfsouth Youth Action Fund's Youth Advisory Board for review:

- Individual youth
- Unincorporated youth groups (this group is required to have a fiscal agent/sponsor for submission of the RFP)
- 501 (c) 3 organizations
- Faith-based organizations

### **Proposal Instructions**

- Type and single-space all proposals (12 point Times New Roman font with 1-inch margins).
- Maximum of three pages, not including summary page and attachments.
- Provide all information in the order listed.
- Please answer all questions completely. Be brief and honest.
- Do not submit any materials other than those specifically requested.
- Submit one original proposal and five additional copies, for a total of six copies. **Clearly mark your original.**
- Do not staple copies. Place them in a single folder and, using paper clips, fasten them individually.
- E-mail an electronic copy to [gyafproposal@thegyac.org](mailto:gyafproposal@thegyac.org).
- PLEASE BE MINDFUL OF TECHNICAL LANGUAGE AND JARGON; THESE PROPOSALS WILL BE READ BY YOUTH!

### **Writing Your Proposal**

#### **A. Complete the proposal cover sheet.**

#### **B. Narrative:** In three pages or less, write a proposal that answers the following questions:

- We want to know about your group or organization. Tell us your mission and how long you have been in existence.
- What population will be served by this project? (i.e. number of people served, age group, etc.)
- What need will the project address?
- Where will the project take place?
- When will the project begin? How long will it take to complete the project?
- How many young people are involved in the creation, implementation and evaluation of this project? What are their specific roles?
- What other organizations, if any, are you collaborating with to complete this project?
- Have you had previous experience with this project? If so, what did you learn and what would you do differently?
- Will this program continue in the future? If so, how will it be funded?
- Would your organization be able to complete this project without the full amount of funding requested from this initiative or with less than what is requested? Explain.
- If your project is funded by the Gulfsouth Youth Action Fund's Youth Advisory Board, how will you promote this partnership?

**Contact Kertrina Watson at (504) 529-1922 or via e-mail at [kwatson@thegyac.org](mailto:kwatson@thegyac.org) with any questions you may have regarding this proposal.**



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**Attachment A**

***PROPOSAL COVER SHEET***

1. Name of organization/school/group: Theta Beta Sigma Programs & Housing Foundation

Address: P.O. Box 50984 New Orleans, Louisiana 70150-0984

Street City/State/Zip

E-mail: HarrisHouseHold@BellSouth.Net Phone: 985 785 3471 (work)

2. Name of project/idea: Sigma Beta Club

3. Amount of money you are requesting from us: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

4. Provide a one or two sentence summary of what you want to do. Launch a "Sigma Beta Club" that will create an established structure for providing mentorship opportunities for collegiates and college educated professionals with young men of the New Orleans area.

5. Name of youth contact person: None

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street City/State/Zip

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Name of adult helper or ally: Marcellus White Phone: 504 258 6473

Address: 2003 Wellington Ln Slidell, LA 70461

Street City/State/Zip

E-mail: IbervilleKarate@AOL.Com Phone: 504 258 6473

7. In the space provided below, list the names and amounts of other funding sources solicited for this project.

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<u>Liberty Bank &amp; Trust</u>	<u>\$300</u>
<u>N.O. Police Foundation</u>	<u>\$200</u>
_____	_____

8. Certifying Signatures:

_____	_____	<u>Sterling Williams</u>	<u>21-Feb-08</u>
Signature of Board Chair	Date	Print Name	Date
_____	_____	_____	_____
Signature of Youth (1):	Date	Print Name	Date
_____	_____	_____	_____
Signature of Youth (2)	Date	Print Name	Date



**GulfSouth Youth Action Fund**  
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**Attachment B**

Name: Theta Beta Sigma Programs & Housing Foundation

Line Item Description	Requested Amount	In-Kind Contributions*	Other Sources
Stipends	\$600		
Supplies	\$60	\$250	
Awards	\$225		
Transportation	\$120	\$300	
Conferences, Meetings and Trainings	\$2,825		
Equipment	\$350		
Printing/Publications	\$250		
Rental/Lease Fees		\$600	
Other Expenses Not Stated Above	\$550		
Iberville Karate Tourney Fundraiser			\$200
N.O. Police Foundation			\$200
Liberty Bank & Trust			\$300
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$4,980	\$1,150	\$900

\*Organizations are encouraged to solicit in-kind contributions from their collaborating partners.

Remember: Please include your project budget with a detailed budget narrative.

## Narrative

The purpose of this proposal is to seek funding for the establishment of a “Sigma Beta Club” in the New Orleans area.

**Mission:** In the early 1950's, a special program The Sigma Beta Club was initiated for male students – ages 12 through 18. The purpose for an organization such as the Sigma Beta Club is many; To provide cultural, social, and athletic enrichment programs for its members; to involve the club members in the fraternity national programs (Education, Bigger and Better Business, and Social Action); and to act as a deterrent against juvenile delinquency. Bigger & Better Business is addressed in the Job Mentoring Program, Education is addressed in the Tutorial program, and Social Action is addressed in community service projects and a special program called Sigma’s Against Teenage Pregnancy (SATAP). Sigma Beta Club programs are geared to meet the needs of its members, while at the same time provide them with a well rounded outlook that is needed to cope with today's society. The enrichment programs are cultural, social, and athletic. They are designed to give members a chance to be innovative, thereby instilling self-confidence and a feeling of accomplishment. Service projects such as community clean-up, assistance to the elderly, March of Dimes, etc, will thrust Club members into community involvement. This involvement will give Club members a feeling of being part of the communities’ development.

**The club motto is:** *Next Generation of Leaders, Accepting the Responsibility, Loving the Challenge*

**Population Served:** This program is designed to target urban youth – grades 8 through 12. There currently is no such program in the New Orleans area. The program will initiate its efforts at Easton High School, Priestly Middle School, and Edna Karr in Algiers and begin the process of club formation with about 25 members.

**Needs Addressed:** The purpose of the program is to encourage future leaders to become more aware of their responsibility to assume roles of leadership within/for the community. The Club, being an organization for young male students, gives them an opportunity to meet with each other on a regular basis outside the school atmosphere to discuss their interest and problems. The Club also gives its members a chance to meet with college and professional men on a regular basis; therefore, exposing the membership to various viewpoints of educational advancement.

**Project Location:** The project of club formation will be centered in New Orleans and the clubs will meet on a regular basis at some of the school locations where we currently have a Phi Beta Sigma presence in the area of faculty or administration. These are the schools of Easton, Priestly, and Edna Karr. When the various clubs meet at one location, the location will be determined at that time, but is likely to be either on the campus of Xavier or SUNO. If these campus facilities are not available then we’d meet in the fellowship hall of Bible-Way Missionary Baptist Church 3201 Orleans Ave. The Pastor of Bible-Way (Pastor Frank Davis) is a member of Phi Beta Sigma and has agreed to allow use of his facilities as we need them.

**Project Timing & Duration:** Initiation & implementation of the project (club formation) should take about three (3) months. The clubs are meant to be permanently established organizations

that continue operations at these three schools - with the intent of expanding to other schools. Club expansion and continuity is based on continued recruitment, and an appeal to young men to get involved in a positive (and fun) cause that would be beneficial to the aspirations that they have in life.

**Youth Involvement:** In the Sigma Beta Club Operations Manual (copy available upon request) there is the requirement for officers including the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Chaplin, Parliamentarian, Chairman of Enrichment Activities, Chairman of Unified National Programs, Chairman of Publicity, Chairman of Fundraising, & Chairman of Service Projects. Each office has specific duties outlined that are geared to contribute to the success of the club and to the development of a sense of responsibility and skills in the youth themselves. A feature of the clubs is that while they are overseen by an alumni chapter of Phi Beta Sigma. They are expected over time to develop the skill to create and manage projects and to see them through to completion.

**Collaborating Organizations:** There are five collegiate chapters of Phi Beta Sigma in the city of New Orleans; they are encouraged to collaborate with Sigma Beta Clubs when they exist in an area. Collegiate members of Phi Beta Sigma become “big brothers” to Sigma Beta Club members and provide educational tutoring and teach step routines which will help to reduce potential sibling rivalry and foster early bonding relations with Sigma Beta Club members. (Collegiate/Sigma Beta Club collaborations allow both groups to better appreciate their overall value to the Fraternity). In addition to the various collegiate chapters the clubs will have the opportunity to collaborate with the alumni chapter, the schools in which they are located, our sister organization – Zeta Phi Beta, the Covenant House, the Youth Empowerment Project (Y.E.P.) and the Iberville Karate Club (founded by a member of Phi Beta Sigma).

**Prior Experience:** Prior to Katrina a Sigma Beta Club had been established and operated successfully for a period for about 5 years. From our end we found that the dedication of a few Brothers is what it takes to make the organization successful, but that the work must be spread out over a greater number of chapters and individuals. The one thing that we found we must do differently is our approach to fundraising. Much of the time of the club was dedicated to raising money when time would have been better spent on the projects dedicated to promoting cultural, social, and athletic activities.

**Continuity:** The clubs are meant to be permanently established organizations that continue operations, and in the future, expand to other schools throughout the city. Club expansion and continuity is based on continued recruitment and an appeal to young men to get involved in a positive (and fun) cause that would be beneficial to the aspirations that they have in life. A part of the continued growth that we expect would be to develop an approach for raising funds. Clubs are responsible for planning fundraising activities. In addition, there are dues in the amount of \$25/year. Donations are made from the various collegiate chapters and the alumni chapter. We will now introduce regular grant writing as a way to generate income. This is expected to become easier as we begin to build a track record in the accomplishment of community service projects and as our goals of 100% high school graduation rate, 95% college admission rate, and unmet need college scholarships to club members become a reality.

**GYAC Funding Importance:** GYAC Funding is essential to allow the members of the club to focus on the goals (as outlined in the operations manual) of:

1. ***Sophistication or Maturity***: One must strive to develop his ability to handle him-self and his situation in a thoughtful and pragmatic manner at all times.
2. ***Self-Thought***: A member must be independent of others and think his own thoughts. He should also develop a keen eye and be able to weed out truth from fallacy and fact from rhetoric. A member must investigate and analyze everything before he makes a definite commitment.
3. ***Development of Potential Talents***: A member must develop his talents to the fullest degree and the talents of the group.
4. ***A Sense of Brotherhood***: It is necessary to develop a set of unselfish values. A member must learn to think of other group members as brothers in his struggle and this will form the foundation for brotherhood in the larger community,
5. ***Involvement***: Part of developing one's talents, sophistication/self-thought and brotherhood is getting involved in different activities. Particularly, a member must get involved in the problems of his community; He must do this to learn and to expand his awareness.
6. ***Commitment to Service***: A member must understand that he is to be a servant of the people. He will have to make a commitment to people and understand that many times a commitment means sacrifice.
7. ***To Develop One's Spirituality***: A member must strive for an appreciation of one's religion. He must develop his faith to an extent that it becomes a badge of honor rather than disrepute. He must seek to reconcile his belief in his religion with belief in his brothers.

While the project could be completed with less than that requested, the resources and time that would have been dedicated to developing the above goals would have to be dedicated to fundraising. It is requested that GYAC consider the full amount requested when reviewing this request.

**GYAC Partnership Promotion**: The chapter website (currently under development) will feature the partnership. The GYAC partnership will be mentioned on the various radio interviews we conduct to when highlighting fraternity events and activities. Banners at award functions will prominently display the GYAC logo & GYAC involvement.

A more complete overview of the Sigma Beta club can be found at:

<http://www.humbleisd.net/education/club/club.php?sectionid=7471>

Line Item Description	Requested Amount	Explanation
Stipends	\$600	Collegiate members of the fraternity will be encouraged to provide mentoring and tutoring services with stipends for time spent. The estimate is based upon 60 hours of service at \$10/hour. The value of this expenditure is that it is a method for encouraging the mentoring relationships between collegiates and club members.

Supplies	\$60	Binders to hold member information. Estimate is based upon 30 binders at \$2/binder.
*Supplies	\$250	<b>In-Kind:</b> Alumni Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma will be prepared to donate to the purchase of needed supplies and to meet other expenditures.
Awards	\$225	An awards banquet will be given to the outstanding members based upon athletics, academics, graduating seniors, etc. The cost estimate is based upon 15 awards at \$15/award. The value of this expenditure is that it provides a mechanism for public and formal recognition for achievement.
Transportation	\$120	Phi Beta Sigma's regional conference is in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The cost estimate is based upon two vans at \$60/van to transport members to the Regional Conference.
*Transportation	\$300	<b>In-Kind:</b> Estimated value of various members of Phi Beta Sigma utilizing own vehicles in the transportation of Sigma Beta members.
Conferences, Meeting & Trainings	\$2,825	<p style="text-align: right;">Regional Conference Registration (\$60/person x 25 persons): \$1,500  Hotel Rooms for Regional Conference (\$100/room x 7 rooms): \$700  Etiquette Dinner (\$25/person x 25 person): \$625  =====</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Total: \$2,825</p> <p>The value of this conference expenditure is the opportunity to network with individuals from Texas and Louisiana, to see how others handle themselves in professional situations, and to understand and appreciate their potential roles in the larger organization.</p> <p>The value of the Etiquette Dinner is that it's an opportunity to train the club members to the dining experience and to offer them the chance to see and experience the skills needed in the larger world.</p>

<b>Line Item Description</b>	<b>Requested Amount</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
Equipment	\$350	Game balls and other athletic equipment: \$100 T-Shirt for club members (\$10/person x \$25 persons): \$250
Printing & Publications	\$250	Flyers for events, programs, color copies, etc.
*Rental/Lease Fees	\$600	<b>In-Kind:</b> Use of facilities at local Universities, church fellowship hall and schools.
Other expenses not stated above	\$550	Community Service Project Expenses - Cleanup of three neighborhood parks designated by the members: \$300 Game nights at local shelter (Covenant House) and youth program (Y.E.P.): \$250
**Iberville Karate Tournament	\$200	Fundraiser event with intent of teaching the skills of putting on such an event.
** N.O. Police Foundation	\$200	Request for financial donation – at this point in time there is no guarantee that the request will be met.
** Liberty Bank	\$300	Request for financial donation – at this point in time there is no guarantee that the request will be met.

It should be noted that events other than those identified in the budget request are planned. This includes: Computer literacy, College applications/preparation, Resume buildings & Interview skills, Basketball tournament at Covenant House, and Walk the Beat/UNCF/MLK Walks.