

# Memorandum



**Date:** September 1, 2022

**To:** Honorable Chairman Jose “Pepe” Diaz  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**From:** Daniella Levine Cava  
Mayor *Daniella Levine Cava*

**Subject:** Resolution Retroactively Approving the Submittal of a Grant Application to the United States Department of Veteran Affairs 2022 National Veterans Sports Programs for Disabled Veterans and Disabled Members of the Armed Forces

Agenda Item No. 3(B)(2)

**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners (Board) authorize the County Mayor or County Mayor’s designee to approve the attached resolution by retroactively approving the submittal of a grant application (Attachment A) to the United States Department of Veterans Affairs 2022 National Veterans Sports Programs for Project Victor (Veterans Integrated into The Community Through Outdoor Recreation) Adaptive Sports Program. It is further recommended that the Board authorize the County Mayor or County Mayor’s designee to receive and expend funds and execute grant agreements, certain amendments, and other documents, as required by the grant agreement upon review and approval of the County Attorney’s Office.

**Scope**

The project is county-wide and includes various County parks: Trail Glades, A.D. “Doug” Bames Park, Amelia Earhart Park, Gwen Cherry Park, Marva Bannerman Park, Camp Matecumbe, Matheson Hammock Park, Crandon Park, Tamiami Park, Goulds Park and Greynolds Park.

**Fiscal Impact/Funding Source**

Project VICTOR is a multi-sport outdoor adaptive sports program at County parks servicing disabled veterans in the South Florida area. The total cost of the project is \$141,701.33. If awarded, the Adaptive Sports Grant Program (ASG) will provide funds of \$102,462.63. The ASG Program has no requirement for matching funds. However, in-kind contributions, supported by the Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department (PROS) for \$39,238.70 were included to demonstrate resources related to the project. There will be no fiscal impact to the Department if the grant is awarded. The part-time positions listed as “TBA” in the grant application are accounted for in the Department’s budget; however, these positions rotate among sites and therefore will be utilized from a pool of existing staff.

**Delegation of Authority**

The Board authorizes the County Mayor or Mayor’s designee to accept and expend funds and execute contracts, amendments, and other documents as required by the grant, upon review and final approval of the County Attorney’s Office. The County Mayor or Mayor’s designee shall be required to seek Board approval for any approvals, consents, actions, events or undertakings that would create a financial obligation, cost or expense to the County beyond those specifically identified and set forth in the Agreement.

**Track Record/Monitor**

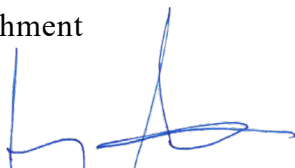
The proposed grant will be administered by PROS Grants Supervisor, Dorothy Mills-Mayers. The grant funded project will be implemented by PROS Therapeutic Recreation & Inclusion Division.

**Background**

The ASG Program is administered through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). The ASG Program is designated for veterans with disabilities and members of the armed forces, and provides grant funding to organizations to increase and expand the quantity and quality of adaptive sport activities for veterans and service members with disabilities, including those with mental health issues, to participate with their home communities, as well as more advanced Paralympic and adaptive sport programs at the regional and national levels. Originally authorized as the U.S. Paralympics Integrated Adaptive Sports Program in December 2013, Public Law 113-59 amended U.S.C. 521A and designated the VA’s Office of National Veterans Sports Programs and Special Events (NVSP&SE) to directly manage the ASG Program.

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Adaptive Sports Grant Program has awarded \$305,681.01 in grants to PROS since 2012. The project is expected to be completed within the term of the grant. The application deadline was March 31, 2022; however, there was insufficient time from the opportunity announcement to the grant deadline to obtain a resolution. An adopted resolution was not required by the funding agency for the application submittal. It is recommended that the Board approve this grant application in order for PROS to continue providing recreational services to veterans.

Attachment



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Jimmy Morales  
Chief Operations Officer



**MEMORANDUM**  
(Revised)

**TO:** Honorable Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** September 1, 2022

**FROM:**   
Gen Bonzon-Keenan  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item No. 3(B)(2)

Please note any items checked.

- "3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised
- 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- Budget required
- Statement of fiscal impact required
- Statement of social equity required
- Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor's report for public hearing
- No committee review
- Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's present \_\_\_\_, 2/3 membership \_\_\_\_, 3/5's \_\_\_\_, unanimous \_\_\_\_, CDMP 7 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) \_\_\_\_, CDMP 2/3 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) \_\_\_\_, or CDMP 9 vote requirement per 2-116.1(4)(c)(2) \_\_\_\_ ) to approve
- Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Mayor  
Veto \_\_\_\_\_  
Override \_\_\_\_\_

Agenda Item No. 3(B)(2)  
9-1-22

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION RETROACTIVELY APPROVING THE COUNTY MAYOR'S OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE'S SUBMITTAL OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS 2022 NATIONAL VETERANS SPORTS PROGRAM FOR \$102,462.63 TO BE USED FOR PROJECT VICTOR (VETERANS INTEGRATED INTO THE COMMUNITY THROUGH OUTDOOR RECREATION) ADAPTIVE SPORTS PROGRAM, AND APPROVING IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACES DEPARTMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$39,238.70 FOR PROJECT VICTOR; AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO ACCEPT AND EXPEND FUNDS AND EXECUTE CONTRACTS, AMENDMENTS, AND OTHER DOCUMENTS AS REQUIRED BY THE AGREEMENT

**WHEREAS**, this Board desires to accomplish the purposes outlined in the accompanying memorandum, a copy of which is incorporated herein by reference,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA**, that this Board hereby retroactively approves the County Mayor's or County Mayor's Designee's submittal of a grant application, in substantially the form attached to the accompanying memorandum as Attachment A, to the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, 2022 National Veterans Sports Programs, for \$102,462.63 to be used for Project VICTOR (Veterans Integrated into The Community Through Outdoor Recreation) Adaptive Sports Program, and approving in-kind contributions from the Parks, recreation and Open Spaces Department in the amount of \$39,238.70 for Project VICTOR, and further authorizing the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to accept and



expend funds and execute contracts, amendments, and other documents as required by the agreement, upon review and approval of the County Attorney’s Office for legal sufficiency.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_ and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

- |                                       |                        |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Jose “Pepe” Diaz, Chairman            |                        |
| Oliver G. Gilbert, III, Vice-Chairman |                        |
| Sen. René García                      | Keon Hardemon          |
| Sally A. Heyman                       | Danielle Cohen Higgins |
| Eileen Higgins                        | Joe A. Martinez        |
| Kionne L. McGhee                      | Jean Monestime         |
| Raquel A. Regalado                    | Rebeca Sosa            |
| Sen. Javier D. Souto                  |                        |

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2022. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board, or (2) approval by the County Mayor of this resolution and the filing of this approval with the Clerk of the Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
BY ITS BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as  
to form and legal sufficiency.

MRP

Monica Rizo Perez

Attachment A

OMB Number: 2900-0820  
 Exp. Date: Feb., 2019  
 Respondent Burden: 20 minutes



Department of Veterans Affairs

**ADAPTIVE SPORT GRANT APPLICATION**

**PRIVACY ACT:** The information requested on this form is solicited under the authority of Title 38, U.S.C., and Sections 1710, 1712, and 1722. It is being collected to enable us to determine your eligibility for benefits and will be used for that purpose. The information you supply may be verified through a computer matching program at any time and information may be disclosed outside the VA as permitted by law. VA may make a routine use disclosure of the information as outlined in the Privacy Act system of records identified as 58VA21/22/28, Compensation, Pension, Education and Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Records - VA, published in the Federal Register. Your obligation to respond is voluntary; however, the information is required in order for us to determine your eligibility for the benefit for which you have applied. Failure to furnish the information will have no adverse affect on any other benefits to which you may be entitled.

**RESPONDENT BURDEN:** The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 requires us to notify you that this information collection is in accordance with the clearance requirements of Section 3507 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. We may not conduct or sponsor, and you are not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB number. We anticipate that the time expended by all individuals who must complete this application will average 20 minutes. This includes the time it will take to read instructions, gather the necessary facts and fill out the forms.

**SECTION A - ORGANIZATION AND GRANT INFORMATION**

1. ORGANIZATION AND MAILING ADDRESS Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department 275 NW 2nd Street Miami, FL 33128	2. PROGRAM NAME AND TITLE Miami-Dade County Parks, VICTOR Adaptive Sports Program	3. GRANT AMOUNT REQUESTED  \$102,462.63
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**SECTION B - CONTACT INFORMATION**

4. PRIMARY CONTACT Dorothy Mills-Mayers	5. PRIMARY PHONE NUMBER (305) 755-7856	6. ALTERNATE PHONE NUMBER (305) 755-7999
7. EMAIL dorothy.mills-mayers@miamidade.gov		

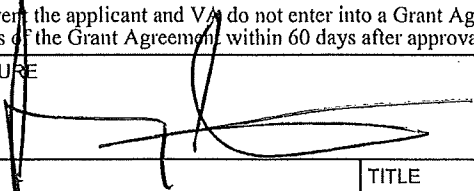
**SECTION C - PROGRAM AND OTHER INFORMATION**

8. DUNS NUMBER (Must provide a DUNS number before any payment is disbursed) 114276590	9. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT FL-024	10. SAM CAGE CODE NUMBER 5TJD4	11. EIN NUMBER 59-6000573
12. PROJECTED START DATE 09/01/2022	13. PROJECTED COMPLETION DATE 09/30/2023	14. TARGET GEOGRAPHIC AREA(S) Miami-Dade County, Florida	
15. CATEGORY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INITIAL <input type="checkbox"/> RENEWAL <input type="checkbox"/> NON-COMPETITIVE		16. PROGRAM HISTORY <input type="checkbox"/> NEW <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 YEARS <input type="checkbox"/> 3-5 YEARS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5+ YEARS	
17. DISABILITY GROUPS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AMPUTEE  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BLIND/VI	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SPINAL CORD INJURY  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PTSD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TBI/STROKE  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER
18. EXPERIENCE WITH DISABLED VETERANS? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	19. COMPLEMENTARY FUNDING? FEDERAL: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO   AMOUNT: _____ NON-FEDERAL: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO   AMOUNT: \$39,238.70		
20. DOES YOUR ORGANIZATION HAVE EXPERIENCE IN MANAGING FEDERAL FUNDS? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO			

Program Details

1. Program Past Performance:  
 Applicant must demonstrate eligibility to receive a grant award in accordance with 38 USC 77(2). Limit response to one written page.

2. Program Specifics:  
 Applicant must clearly describe specific aspects of the proposed program to include: type of adaptive sport(s) provided (community/national events, introductory/competitive events, local/or requires travel), frequency and duration of occurrence, location(s) of programming, estimated number of unique Veterans/ Service Members served (required to be reported by last name, first name and zip code on quarterly reports), type of disabilities served by the proposed adaptive sport, and benefits of the programming to participants. Limit responses to 2 pages.

3. TIMELINE OF ACTIVITIES (Check box if you are hosting activities in a given month.)											
OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP
X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<p>4. OUTREACH PROGRAM SPECIFICS (Describe your planned outreach efforts to inform eligible Veterans and members of the Armed Forces about your program)</p> <p>Fliers will be created and sent to local VA hospital (Bruce Carter VAMC), the Paralyzed Veterans Association of Florida, and local VSO's serving Veterans in the area. Press releases will be created to notify local media. Staff will attend local events and resource fairs for Veterans. Information and photos of past programming will be advertised through Miami-Dade Parks' social media outlets. Past program participants will be notified via e-mail and phone call. Banner will be displayed during programming to increase awareness of program during program hours.</p> <p>This application does not constitute a Grant Agreement. Upon approval of the application by VA, an applicant will be required to complete a signed Grant Agreement specifying terms and conditions of an award. The Program Goals and Deliverables (Exhibit A) and Program Budget (Exhibit B) will form the basis of the Grant Agreement as agreed upon by VA and the applicant. Upon full execution of the Grant Agreement, the applicant will perform the services/activities hereto attached in Exhibit A, perform the Program Budget in line with the budget attach hereto in Exhibit B unless otherwise agreed upon by the applicant and VA.</p> <p>In the event the applicant and VA do not enter into a Grant Agreement for any reason, and/or in the event the applicant and VA are unable to agree on the terms of the Grant Agreement within 60 days after approval of the application by VA, this application will automatically terminate.</p>											
SIGNATURE				ORGANIZATION NAME							
				Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department							
NAME				TITLE				DATE			
Jimmy Morales				Chief Operations Officer				3/29/27			
5. QUALIFICATIONS OF PERSONNEL (Include specific experience, education or other qualifications relevant to the grant proposal.)											
NAME		TITLE		QUALIFICATIONS							
Christina Perez, CTRS		Recreation Therapist 2		B.S. in Therapeutic Recreation, 6 years experience in the field.							
Belinda Phillips, CTRS		Recreation Therapist 2		B.S. in Therapeutic Recreation, +32 years experience in the field.							
Arlene Bouza-Jou		Recreation Specialist 2		Seeking B.S. in Recreation Therapy. 25+ years experience in field.							
Eric Cooper		Disability Program Specialist		B.S. in Recreation Therapy, 3 years experience in the field.							
Randall Flagler, CTRS, CPRP		Disability Program Specialist		B.S./M.S in Sport Management, 5+ years experience in the field.							
Camila Carvacho		Disability Program Specialist		B.S. in Recreation Therapy. 9 Years experience in the field.							
See attached Qual of Personnel cont.											
6. PARTNERING AND COLLABORATING ORGANIZATIONS (Include signed agreements for partnering or joint activities.)											
COLLABORATING ORGANIZATION NAME AND POC			LOCATION (CITY, STATE)			COLLABORATIVE ACTIVITIES					
Bruce Carter VAMC POCs: A. Maitre, T. Aragon, C. Dugrot			Miami, FL			Coordination of clinics and patient outings, referral of participants.					
Wounded Warrior Project POCs: Edwin Vasco & Katuska Pabon			Miami, FL			Coordination of Activities, referral of participants					
Miami-Dade County Parks Eco Adventures POC: Heather Tedlow			Miami, FL			Organization and implementation of edu. component of paddle sports					
Paralyzed Veterans Association of Florida POC: Jose Gonzalez			Ft. Lauderdale FL			Dissemination of information to veterans, participant recruitment					
Miami-Dade County Veterans Services Coalition K. Cheeseboro			Miami, FL			Dissemination of information to VSO's					

**EXHIBIT A**

**Program Goal and Deliverables**

*(Include location, dates, activities, frequency of occurrence and number of Veterans expected to participate)*

**Organization Name:**

**Program Deliverable**

	<b>DELIVERABLE SUBCOMPONENTS</b>	<b>PROJECTED START</b>	<b>PROJECT COMPLETION</b>	<b>BUDGET ESTIMATE</b>
1	Archery: Camp Matecumbe, Miami, FL. 31 weekly sessions, 3 competition practices, 2 recreational tournaments, and 1 local invitational tournament. Expected # Veterans to be served: 15	10/01/2022	09/30/2023	\$17,489.99 <sup>+</sup>
2	Boccia: Miami, FL Gwen Cherry Park and Demps Park. 8 clinics, 11 competition sessions, 1 tournament. Expected # of Veterans to be served: 15	10/01/2022	09/30/2023	\$5,698.96
3	Cycling: Tamiami Park, Miami, FL. 12 clinics, 2 timed races, 1 destination race. Expected # of veterans to be served: 12	10/01/2022	09/30/2023	\$15,396.60 <sup>+</sup>
4	Fishing: Biscayne Bay/ Biscayne National Park, FL. 10 fishing clinics/tournaments on the Pelican Skipper. Expected # of Veterans to be served: 30	10/01/2022	09/30/2023	\$12,693.98 <sup>+</sup>
5	Paddle Sports: Various water locations in Miami, FL. 10 kayaking/paddle board clinics paired with ecological excursions. Excepted # of veterans to be served: 18	10/01/2022	09/30/2023	\$11,470.08 <sup>+</sup>
6	Pickleball: Gwen Cherry Park, Miami, FL. 8 introductory clinics, 10 competition training sessions, 1 local tournament. Expected # of Veterans to be served: 12	10/01/2022	09/30/2023	\$3,095.64
7	Swimming: Miami-Dade Parks various pool locations, Miami, FL. 4 clinics, 12 competition training sessions, 2 swim meets. Expected # of Veterans to be served: 10	10/01/2022	09/30/2023	\$2,942.80
8	Trap Shooting: Trail Glades Range, Miami, FL. 10 introductory clinics, 21 competition training sessions, 3 tournaments, 1 South Florida clay event participation. Expected # of Veterans to be served: 25	10/01/2022	09/30/2023	\$20,378.01 <sup>+</sup>
9	Adapted Waterski: Amelia Earhart Park, Hialeah, FL. 1 two-day introductory and participatory adapted water ski clinic. Expected # of Veterans to be served: 15	05/12/2023	05/13/2023	\$4,391.37
10	Wheelchair Basketball: Miami Springs Recreation Center, Miami Springs, FL. 3 veteran-only intro clinics, 1 skill competition, and 20 competitive practices if interested in playing w/ Miami HEAT Wheels team. # of Vets served: 5	10/01/2022	09/30/2023	\$6,714.94
11	Wheelchair Softball: Miracle League Field, Tamiami Park, Miami, FL. 7 intro clinics mixed with scrimmages. Expected # of veterans to be served: 10	10/01/2022	09/30/2023	\$1,740.27
12				

**EXHIBIT B  
VA ADAPTIVE SPORTS GRANT PROGRAM BUDGET**

**Program Budget and Expected Expenditures (Grant Funds Only)**

CATEGORY	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION OF EXPENDITURES	PROJECTED SPENDING IN EACH QUARTER (\$)			
			OCT-DEC (Q1)	JAN-MAR (Q2)	APR-JUN (Q3)	JUL-SEPT (Q4)
Operations	24,495.2	Vendors, deliverables	5,373.8	5,373.8	8,373.8	5,373.8
Equipment						
Travel						
Supplies	34,494.44	Program sports supplies	8,623.61	8,623.61	8,623.61	8,623.61
Administrative						
*Personnel (Operational)	42,756.22	RT2,RS2,DPS,RL (rounded)	10,341.21	10,341.21	11,732.48	10,341.21
*Personnel (Administrative)	0	Planning, Grant reporting	0	0	0	0
Other	716.77	training/certifications	358.39	358.39		
<b>Total</b>	<b>102,462.63</b>		<b>24,697.01</b>	<b>24,697.01</b>	<b>28,729.99</b>	<b>24,338.62</b>

**BUDGET CATEGORY DEFINITIONS**

ONLY include amounts spent against this award. DO NOT report expenditures that are funded by other sources.

For further information regarding allowable costs, please reference OMB guidance (2 CFR 200 and 38 CFR 77).

Operations - Expenditures associated with implementing this grant program such as coaching fees, lift tickets and facility fees.

Equipment - Sport equipment purchased to meet program objectives. To be categorized as equipment must have a useful life of more than one year and a unit price equal to or greater than \$5,000. Equipment expenditures must be identified in your Grant Application and listed on Exhibit C.

Travel - Expenses for transportation, lodging, subsistence, and related items incurred to meet program objectives. Costs must be consistent with those allowed in like circumstances in your organization's other activities. Travel costs must comply with GSA lodging and subsistence rates for designated locations which can be found at <http://www.gsa.gov/portal/category/100120>.

Supplies - Consumable items in direct support of carrying out the award or equipment purchases with a per-unit value less than \$5,000.

Administrative (non-Personnel) - Sum of Administrative and In-Direct Costs that do not include Personnel (Administrative). When combined with Personnel (Administrative) costs, may not exceed 5% of the total award. Costs must be clearly identified and associated with the implementation and tracking of the award.

\*Personnel (Operational) - Includes both Personnel and Fringe Benefit expenses that should be based on documented payrolls approved by a responsible official(s) of the organization. Reports need to reflect the distribution of activity for those whose compensation is charged, in whole or in part, directly to this award. Operational activities are identified as "time spent by such employee directly providing coaching or training for participants" per 38 CFR 77.14(c)(2). The reports must reflect an after-the-fact determination of the actual activity worked on the program. Reports must account for the total activity for which employees are compensated.

\*Personnel (Administrative) - Includes both Personnel and Fringe Benefits expenses that should be based on documented payrolls approved by a responsible official(s) of the organization. Reports need to reflect the distribution of activity for those whose compensation is charged, in whole or in part, directly to this award. Administrative activities are identified as all personnel activities that are not "time spent by such employee directly providing coaching or training for participants" per 38 CFR 77.14(c)(2). The reports must reflect an after-the-fact determination of the actual activity worked on the program. Reports must account for the total activity for which employees are compensated.

**EXHIBIT C  
EQUIPMENT PURCHASES**  
Organization Name:

**Equipment Purchases**

\*Report the purchase of single units/pieces of equipment equal to or in excess of \$5,000. This is only for equipment purchases using this award.

TYPE OF EQUIPMENT	MAKE AND MODEL	APPROXIMATE VALUE	QUANTITY

**EXHIBIT D  
ADAPTIVE SPORTS OFFERED**

Please indicate the type of adaptive sport activity: introductory, participatory, or competitive.

SPORT	INTRODUCTORY	PARTICIPATION	COMPETITION
Archery	X	X	X
Boccia	x	x	x
Cycling	x	x	x
Fishing	x	x	x
Paddle Sports	x	x	
Pickleball	x	x	x
Swimming	x	x	x
See Exhibit D cont.			

**VA-10096 SUPPLEMENT**

**SECTION C - 5. Qualifications of Personnel Continued:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Qualifications</b>
Charmaigne Crosby	Disability Program Specialist	HS Diploma, 18 years of experience in the field
Dario Figueroa	Disability Program Specialist	A.A. in Psychology, 4 years' experience in the field
TBA	Recreation Leader	HS Diploma, 1 year experience in the field

**EXHIBIT D: Adaptive Sports Offered Continued:**

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Introductory</b>	<b>Participation</b>	<b>Competition</b>
Trap Shooting	X	X	X
Waterskiing	X	X	
Wheel Chair Basketball	X	X	X
Wheel Chair Softball	X	X	





## Miami-Dade County Parks VICTOR Adapted Sports Program

Grants for Adaptive Sports Programs for Disabled Veterans  
and Disabled Members of the Armed Forces  
VA Assistance to United States  
National Veterans Sports Programs  
CFDA NO.: 64.034 / Opportunity No.: VA-Sports-22

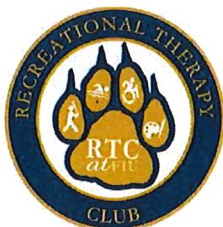
### PROJECT APPLICATION

Submitted By:

Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department



*Collaborative Partners*





**2022-2023 VICTOR Adapted Sports Program**  
**Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department**  
**Miami-Dade Parks Therapeutic Recreation & Inclusion**  
**VICTOR (Veterans Integrated into the Community Through Outdoor Recreation)**  
**Adapted Sports Program (Programming for Veterans)**

**Abstract**

The 2022 Miami-Dade Parks VICTOR Adaptive Sports Program is a multi-sport program that will provide Disabled Veterans with the opportunity to engage in various sports to promote the overall quality of life for individuals by emphasizing the importance of physical fitness and well-being, decreasing social isolation, and providing education on the value and use of recreation as a means to cope with trauma, stress, and to develop a sense of identity. The sports that will be offered include: Archery, Boccia, Cycling, Paddlesports, Pickleball, Swimming, Trap Shooting, Waterskiing, Wheelchair Basketball, and Wheelchair Softball. This program also seeks to provide Disabled Veterans progressing along the athletic pipeline with access to competitive-level quality equipment for training and competing. The primary disability populations that will be served through this program include: Spinal Cord Injury, diseases and disorders affecting the central nervous system such as, Multiple Sclerosis and Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, amputations, range of motion limitations due to disease or injury, Traumatic head injury, stroke, visual impairments, and those affected by Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

## **I. Program Details and Specifics**

The 2022-23 VICTOR Adapted Sports Program is a multi-sport program that provides extensive sport training and education leading into competitive opportunities in 11 different adapted sports to veterans living with physical disabilities, those affected by illness or disease, and those affected by PTSD and other mental health issues. Activities are coordinated and supervised by a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist who plans schedules in collaboration with staff from the Bruce Carter VAMC, Wounded Warrior Project, and Paralyzed Veterans Association of Florida. Activities will be scheduled throughout the week, ongoing throughout the year.

All program components will provide training opportunities and competitions. The activities will be offered to veterans and will consist of (but not be limited to): 1. Rules of the sport and how to play, 2. Adapted equipment for the sport (types, use, and care of), 3. Exercises and techniques to improve performance in the sport, and 4. Safety. All activity sessions will typically have a duration of 2-3 hours, while some clinics may have a duration of 2-8 hours depending on the sport and the frequency of clinic offerings.

In order to serve the growing varieties of skills, the following sports will be elevated to comprise both recreational and competitive levels: Archery, Boccia, Fishing, Cycling, Trap Shooting, Swimming, and Wheelchair Basketball.

The program components are as follows:

1. Archery (local/introductory/competitive/community event) will include a minimum of 30 weekly sessions on the fundamentals of archery and the use of adapted equipment, 3 competitive skill sessions, 2 in-house tournaments, and 1 culminating invitational tournament for program participants. Use of adaptive equipment such as the DrawLoc, bow release aids, stools, finger tabs, quad gloves, and more available for wheelchair users or other disabilities. Archers classified according to USA Archery standards (ST, W2, W1, and NE) and program run by USA Archery certified coaches. Veterans to be served: 15
2. Boccia (local/introductory/competitive/community event) will include 8 intro sessions to provide instruction on the rules of the adapted sport boccia, the fundamentals of play, strategy, and drills to improve technique., 11 competitive skills sessions and 1 culminating tournament in the Spring. Use of adaptive aids such as ramps and personal assistants available. Veterans to be served: 15
3. Cycling (local/introductory) will include 12 handcycling and tandem cycling clinics for veterans with physical or visual disabilities on the fundamentals of handcycling, caring for equipment, and safety education, 2 local timed races, and 1 culminating race. Veterans to be served: 12

4. Fishing (local/introductory/competitive) 10 fishing excursions in Biscayne Bay, on a WC accessible vessel which can accommodate up to 15 participants, to include education on fundamentals of fishing, fishing regulations in Florida, adapted equipment, conservation, and fishing sustainability, and how to filet and prepare fish for a healthy meal. Several of these outings will foster the format of a fishing tournament. Adaptive equipment for anglers available includes StrongArms, electric reels, knot tying kit. Boat ramp used for chair access from dock. Veterans to be served: 30
5. Paddlesports (kayaking and stand-up paddleboards) will include 10 in-person kayaking/paddleboarding clinics and excursions throughout Miami-Dade County in partnership with our ECO Adventures division, on the fundamentals of kayaking/paddling. Kayaks are adaptable for a wide variety of individuals with various disabilities. Includes foot-pedal tandem kayak, outboard balanced kayaks for stability, high back chairs, adapted oar grips, beach access mats, and beach wheelchairs available for transfer. Veterans to be served: 18
6. Pickleball (local/introductory/community competition) will included a minimum of 8 introductory clinics to aging Veterans and Veterans who use wheelchairs to include instruction on the fundamentals of play, the rules of the sport, and exercises to improve balance and coordination while playing. 10 competitive skills sessions, and 1 culminating tournament. Adaptive equipment available includes tennis wheelchairs. Follows regulations of Para-pickleball when needed. Veterans to be served: 12
7. Swimming (local/introductory/community competition) will include 4 introductory clinics, 12 competitive swimming sessions, and 2 swim meets to include instruction and coaching on techniques to improve swim stroke and efficiency with a former Paralympic swim coach. Location includes heated pool, wheelchair access, and lift. Veterans to be served: 10
8. Trap Shooting (local/introductory/community competition) will include a minimum of 10 introductory sessions on trap and skeet lessons which will include the fundamentals of the sport, improving performance, and safety, 21 competitive training sessions, 3 in-house tournaments, and one SoFL clay event participation in the community. Follow American Trapshooting Association (ATA) regulations and National Skeet Shooting (NSSA) regulations. Range is WC accessible. Veterans to be served: 25
9. Waterskiing (local/introductory) one two-day clinic will be provided in partnership with Ann's Angels Adapted Waterski Foundation to help train those veterans who will be participating in skiing at seasonal Sports Clinics. Access mats installed for WC users to transfer into adapted ski apparatus. Veterans to be served: 15

10. Wheelchair Basketball (local/introductory/community competition/national competition) will include 3 introductory clinics, and an option to continue training with weekly practices and competing with the Miami HEAT Wheels wheelchair basketball team/program which will offer a minimum of 20 additional practices throughout the year. Sport chairs available on loan for veterans who do not have their own. Veterans to be served: 5
11. Wheelchair Softball (local/introductory) 7 introductory clinics will be provided on the fundamentals, rules, and drills to improve performance. Location is WC accessible and has rubber padded field. Veterans served: 10

The goals and objectives this program will seek to achieve are:

- A. To promote the lifelong health of disabled veterans and disabled members of the Armed Forces through regular participation in physical activity and sports.
  1. Provide multiple program opportunities for disabled veterans and disabled members of the Armed Forces within the following disability types: spinal cord injury, individuals with multiple sclerosis, amputees, traumatic head injury, PTSD, visual disabilities, and those disabled through either disease or by the aging process which foster:
    - a. A therapeutic environment in which Veterans can learn to develop alternative personal strategies to cope with, manage, and/or improve the effects of disabling conditions.
    - b. An awareness of the benefits of participation in sports.
    - c. Sporting experiences with specific adaptations that meet the needs of our participatory populations.
  2. Provide multiple clinics for Veterans with disabilities to gain introductory sporting experience where they will be educated in
    - a. The official rules and regulations to a variety of different sports.
    - b. Proper use of adaptive equipment used in sports to decrease limitations.
    - c. Methods to improve physical performance through individualized activities that promote achievement of performance goals, progressive physical challenges, and skills acquisition.
  3. Provide opportunities for Veterans with disabilities to develop personal growth and self-fulfillment while advancing to higher competitive levels in their respective sports by
    - a. Taking part in competitive team practices where participants will receive a pre- and post- evaluation with their skill growth being maintained or improved.
    - b. Taking part in competitions and tournaments.
    - c. Learning to maintain individualized sports equipment.

- B. To increase participation of disabled veterans and disabled members of the Armed Forces in adapted sports.
1. Provide a minimum of 150 recreation and sports training and opportunities throughout the South Florida region at multiple locations, days of the week, and at various times throughout the year to maximize the number of unique veterans served through the program.
  2. Provide the opportunity for disabled veterans to engage in adapted sports programming at no cost.
  3. Expand the outreach of programming through partnership organizations which will draw in disabled veterans from other areas within the state and nationally.

### **//.Implementation Plan and Environment**

The proposed program is designed to be primarily operated out of Miami-Dade County through the already existing resources of MDPROS. The activities will take place at various MDPROS facilities so that there is little to no turnover time in planning and scheduling of activities.

Activity schedules and dates will be coordinated among MDPROS staff, VA therapists, and collaborating organizations. Master schedules will be disseminated amongst all interested parties and all disabled veterans already in the Miami-Dade Parks database as well as available online for veterans to schedule themselves for the programs they would like to participate in. Programs will be offered throughout the week on various days and at various times. Some activities will only be scheduled during certain operating quarters taking the South Florida climate into consideration.

Funding for the program will go to the cost of purchasing any additional supplies needed to operate the program, operational expenses for running the program which include but are not limited to fees at the shooting range, charter boats for fishing, snorkeling, ECO Adventure activities, specialized instructor fees, training for staff, and personnel operations to cover the cost of park staff implementing programs and working directly with disabled veterans during programs.

Supplies being purchased for the program will be used to enhance already existing programs or to begin new ones, to replace supplies that have already been used up either as a consumable product or through normal wear and tear. Additional resources that will be provided by MDPROS include already allocated resources from previous grant cycles such as archery supplies, boccia supplies, sports wheelchairs, handcycles, and shotguns, indoor and outdoor facilities including gym space, shooting range, beach areas, pool space, and vehicles to transport supplies from one park to another

Upon conclusion of the award period, it is intended that the following deliverables be achieved:

1. That a minimum of 150 unique disabled veterans be served through the program,
2. That a minimum of 150 days of programming be offered through the program,
3. That a minimum of 20 disabled veterans will participate in either a competition of one of the sports being offered or will move into a high-performance training program for a sport they have participated in through the program.
4. That the average overall satisfaction rate among participants with the program will average 4.3 or higher on a Likert scale.
5. That the overall outcomes and success of the program will be shared by other professionals at a state or national conference.

Most of the activities can be implemented immediately as many of the resources are already in place. Planning and preliminary scheduling have already begun amongst interested entities to implement the program effective October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022.

### **///. Impact**

The proposed program has the potential to significantly impact the number of adapted sports being offered through the region by drawing awareness to the lack of recreational opportunities due to disability-related issues and to the benefits of adapted sports. Furthermore, the outreach and programming efforts within activities, such as, bocchia and pickleball, will also extend to the aging population which may have an impact on the overall awareness of aging veterans who can compete at the Golden Age Games, and increase participation. Providing adaptive sporting opportunities for non-ambulatory veterans will positively impact the health and wellness of these individuals and increase their participation in the community and awareness of more events, such as, the Wheelchair Games. The implementation of these activities has the potential to improve the overall level of health and quality of life of veterans who have been homebound or deemed high-risk because of the COVID pandemic. Finally, as part of the effort to document outcomes achieved through the program and raise awareness about the benefits of adapted sports programming for disabled veterans, it is expected that more opportunities will arise in the community through possible partners for further programming in the future.

The following link will take you to a testimonial video our Miami-Dade Parks media team produced on the VICTOR Program in 2021 that was shared through all our social media outlets and to the community.

<https://www.facebook.com/miamidadeparks/videos/theplayground-victor-program-for-veterans/440197417460423/>

#### **IV. Program Sustainability**

Programs and access to each of the sports being offered already exist through the PROS system. During each sport activity, program participants will be provided a leisure education component that includes education on the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle through ongoing participation. Program participants will be provided with resources they can connect with to continue pursuing their interests and will be encouraged to do so independently.

At the end of the program, veterans will continue to be provided with the opportunity to engage in the following programs at no cost: Archery, bocchia, wheelchair basketball, pickleball and cycling. Fishing, cycling, trap shooting, and archery equipment will be made available at no cost for use by VA hospital therapists as well as equipment for local and out of state competition. Disabled Veterans will also have priority access to the use of equipment during ongoing programs with prior notification at no cost.

#### **V. Budget Narrative and Details**

The costs for personnel include fringe and benefits calculated into the hourly rate. These individuals are necessary to ensure the safety of the participants attending the program to provide any needed assistance and transferring of individuals in/out of equipment. Operational expenses include the rate of the cost of rounds and ammunition for trap shooting, the cost of nature-based interpretive programs, the cost of operating a water ski clinic with a partnership organization and chartering a boat for fishing excursions. The costs for supplies were based on online searches and through current vendor prices which will include:

- Archery supplies to replace used supplies that has been damaged through regular use or that have reached the end of its lifecycle and supplies for maintaining current inventory of bows.
- Fishing supplies to replace items that have been used up or have reached the end of its lifecycle.
- Additional adapted cycles (1 tandem trike and 2 foot-pedaled recumbent cycles) to accommodate those with different types of physical/visual disabilities.
- Two additional basketball wheelchairs to accommodate veterans of different sizes.
- One additional foot-pedaled tandem kayak to accommodate veterans with MS, TBI, hemiparesis, and those with upper limb limitations and high-back seats for standard kayaks to provide additional support to veterans who may have back issues or who cannot tolerate sitting on kayaks unsupported for extended periods of time.

In kind contributions supported by MDPROS include partial operational expenses for 9 full-time staff inclusive of Recreational Therapists, Disability Program Specialists, and Recreational Specialists in the amount of \$39,238.70. Additional in-kind contributions for



events and activities include funding for meals during some activities and events by the Leisure Access Foundation, the National Parks Conservation Association, and the Wounded Warrior Project.

### **Key Personnel**

**Christina Perez, CTRS (Recreation Therapist II):** Perform all program development and planning, scheduling of activities, and perform administrative tasks related to the grant including writing quarterly reports. Mrs. Perez will provide direct oversight and implementation of the program with other staff working in conjunction with her. She is the primary person responsible for communication with VA staff and other partner organizations, planning, marketing, and coordinating all activities and schedules, monitoring staff hours worked in the program, researching, and ordering equipment, and tracking all invoices and expenditures. She has a B.S. degree in Therapeutic Recreation, 6 years' experience in the field, and holds certification as a Water Safety Instructor, and CPR/First Aid through the American Red Cross. Certified as a Therapeutic Recreation Specialist through the National Council on Therapeutic Recreation Certification.

**Belinda Phillips, M.S., CTRS (Recreation Therapist II):** Provide direct supervision and activity instruction. Coordinate swimming activities with VA personnel and pool staff. Ms. Phillips has a B.S. and an M.S. Degree in Education. She has over 33 years of experience working in the field. Certified as a Therapeutic Recreation Specialist through the National Council on Therapeutic Recreation Certification. She is a Water Safety Instructor Trainer and holds certification in CPR/First Aid. Ms. Phillips coached the Jamaican Paralympic Swim team during the 1988 Summer Paralympic Games in Seoul, Korea. She will lead in swimming activities.

**Randall Flagler, M.S., CTRS, CPRP (Disability Program Specialist):** Will work under the remote supervision of RT in the implementation of activities. Mr. Flagler will lead facilitation of archery, trap shooting, fishing, and wheelchair basketball. He has an M.S. Degree in Sport Management and a B.S. Degree in Sports and Recreation Management and 5+ years' experience working in various adapted sports programs and is certified as a Therapeutic Recreation Specialist through the National Council on Therapeutic Recreation Certification, NWBA coach, Archery Level I Instructor through USA Archery, Certified Parks and Recreation Professional through the National Recreation and Parks Association, and holds certification in CPR/First Aid through the American Red Cross.

**Eric Cooper, B.S. (Disability Program Specialist):** Will work under the remote supervision of RT in the implementation of activities. Mr. Cooper will lead facilitation of Boccia, Paddlesports, and Pickleball. He has a B.S. degree in Recreation Therapy and Sports Management, 3 years' experience working directly with Disabled Veterans, and holds certification as a Water Safety Instructor, and CPR/First Aid through the American Red Cross.

**Arlene Bouza-Jou (Recreation Specialist I):** Provide direct supervision and activity instruction. She has over 25 years working in various adapted sports programs. She will be assisting in activity instruction and supervision and will lead in handcycling



activities. She is certified as a Water Safety Instructor and as an Archery Level I Instructor and holds certification in CPR/First Aid through the American Red Cross.

**Camila Carvacho, B.S., (Disability Program Specialist):** Will work under the supervision of Recreation Therapists and Specialists in providing direct service delivery to program participants. She has a B.S. Degree in Therapeutic Recreation and is certified as a NWBA coach, Water Safety Instructor and holds certification in CPR/First Aid through the American Red Cross, Archery level I instructor and has 9 years' experience in working with individuals with disabilities.

**Charmaigne Crosby (Disability Program Specialist):** Will work under the supervision of Recreation Therapists and Specialists in providing direct service delivery to program participants. She has 18 years' experience working with individuals with disabilities and is a certified NWBA coach and Water Safety Instructor and holds certification in CPR/First Aid through the American Red Cross.

**Dario Figueroa (Disability Program Specialist):** Will work under the supervision of Recreation Therapists and Specialist in providing direct service delivery to program participants. Will lead implementation of Wheelchair Softball. Holds A.A. in Psychology, seeking B.S. in psychology. He has 4 years' experience working with individuals with disabilities.

**TBA (Recreation Leader):** Will work directly under the supervision of Recreational Therapists and Disability Program Specialists in the implementation of activities. These individuals will come from a pool of part-time staff who already work within the TRI division and a full-time staff, both of which have a minimum of 1 year of experience working with individuals with disabilities.

### **Partnerships**

The primary collaborating partner for the MDPROS Veteran's Adapted Sports Program is the Bruce W. Carter VA Medical Center. Currently, MDPROS Therapeutic Recreation and Inclusion staff is working with several key therapists at the Bruce W. Carter VA Medical Center to plan programs with the disabled veterans in mind. The key staff from the Bruce W. Carter VA Medical Center includes: Alexander Maitre, CTRS, who works with the SCI and amputee populations, Tabitha Aragon, CTRS from the Outpatient OEF/OIF Program, and Christina Dugrot, CTRS and Zuleika Smith, CTRS from the Psychosocial Unit. Additional major collaborating partners include the Paralyzed Veterans Association of Florida, the Leisure Access Foundation, Biscayne National Park, the National Parks Conservation Association, Florida International University Recreation Therapy Program, The Wounded Warrior Project, Miami-Dade County ECO Adventures, the Miami Vet Center, and the Veteran's Services Coalition of Miami-Dade County.

**BUDGET INFORMATION - Non-Construction Programs**

**SECTION A - BUDGET SUMMARY**

Grant Program Function or Activity (a)	Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number (b)	Estimated Unobligated Funds		New or Revised Budget		
		Federal (c)	Non-Federal (d)	Federal (e)	Non-Federal (f)	Total (g)
1. Adaptive Sports Programs for Disabled Veterans and Disabled Members of the Armed Forces	64.034	\$ 102,462.63	\$ 39,238.70	\$	\$	\$ 141,701.33
2.						
3.						
4.						
<b>5. Totals</b>		\$ 102,462.63	\$ 39,238.70	\$	\$	\$ 141,701.33

**SECTION B - BUDGET CATEGORIES**

6. Object Class Categories	GRANT PROGRAM, FUNCTION OR ACTIVITY				Total (5)
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	
	Adaptive Sports Programs for Disabled Veterans and Disabled Members of the Armed Forces				
a. Personnel	\$ 29,083.95	\$	\$	\$	\$ 29,083.95
b. Fringe Benefits	13,672.27				13,672.27
c. Travel	0.00				0.00
d. Equipment	0.00				0.00
e. Supplies	34,494.44				34,494.44
f. Contractual	0.00				0.00
g. Construction	0.00				0.00
h. Other	25,211.97				25,211.97
i. Total Direct Charges (sum of 6a-6h)	102,462.63				\$ 102,462.63
j. Indirect Charges	0.00				\$ 0.00
k. TOTALS (sum of 6i and 6j)	\$ 102,462.63	\$	\$	\$	\$ 102,462.63
7. Program Income	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ 0.00

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SECTION C - NON-FEDERAL RESOURCES					
(a) Grant Program	(b) Applicant	(c) State	(d) Other Sources	(e) TOTALS	
8. Adaptive Sports Programs for Disabled Veterans and Disabled Members of the Armed Forces	\$ 39,238.70	\$	\$	\$	39,238.70
9.					
10.					
11.					
12. TOTAL (sum of lines 8-11)	\$ 39,238.70	\$	\$	\$	39,238.70

SECTION D - FORECASTED CASH NEEDS				
Total for 1st Year	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
13. Federal	\$	\$	\$	\$
14. Non-Federal	\$	\$	\$	\$
15. TOTAL (sum of lines 13 and 14)	\$	\$	\$	\$

SECTION E - BUDGET ESTIMATES OF FEDERAL FUNDS NEEDED FOR BALANCE OF THE PROJECT				
(a) Grant Program	FUTURE FUNDING PERIODS (YEARS)			
	(b) First	(c) Second	(d) Third	(e) Fourth
16. Adaptive Sports Programs for Disabled Veterans and Disabled Members of the Armed Forces	\$	\$	\$	\$
17.				
18.				
19.				
20. TOTAL (sum of lines 16 - 19)	\$	\$	\$	\$

SECTION F - OTHER BUDGET INFORMATION	
21. Direct Charges: 102,462.63	22. Indirect Charges: 0

23. Remarks:

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424		
<b>* 1. Type of Submission:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Preapplication <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Application <input type="checkbox"/> Changed/Corrected Application	<b>* 2. Type of Application:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation <input type="checkbox"/> Revision	<b>* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s):</b> <input type="text"/> <b>* Other (Specify):</b> <input type="text"/>
<b>* 3. Date Received:</b> Completed by Grants.gov upon submission.	<b>4. Applicant Identifier:</b> <input type="text"/>	
<b>5a. Federal Entity Identifier:</b> <input type="text"/>	<b>5b. Federal Award Identifier:</b> <input type="text"/>	
<b>State Use Only:</b>		
<b>6. Date Received by State:</b> <input type="text"/>	<b>7. State Application Identifier:</b> <input type="text"/>	
<b>8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:</b>		
<b>* a. Legal Name:</b> Miami-Dade County		
<b>* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):</b> 59-60000573		<b>* c. Organizational DUNS:</b> 1319102540000
<b>d. Address:</b>		
<b>* Street1:</b>	Stephen P. Clark Center	
<b>Street2:</b>	111 NW 1st Street 29th Floor	
<b>* City:</b>	Miami-Dade	
<b>County/Parish:</b>	<input type="text"/>	
<b>* State:</b>	Florida	
<b>Province:</b>	<input type="text"/>	
<b>* Country:</b>	USA: UNITED STATES	
<b>* Zip / Postal Code:</b>	33128-1994	
<b>e. Organizational Unit:</b>		
<b>Department Name:</b> OMB-Grant Cordination	<b>Division Name:</b> For Miami-Dade Parks Dept.	
<b>f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:</b>		
<b>Prefix:</b> Mrs.	<b>* First Name:</b> Dorothy	
<b>Middle Name:</b>	<input type="text"/>	
<b>* Last Name:</b>	Mills-Mayers	
<b>Suffix:</b>	<input type="text"/>	
<b>Title:</b> Grants Supervisor		
<b>Organizational Affiliation:</b> Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department		
<b>* Telephone Number:</b> 305-755-7856	<b>Fax Number:</b> 305-755-7940	
<b>* Email:</b> dorothy.mills-mayers@miamidade.gov		



**Application for Federal Assistance SF-424**

**\* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:**

County Government

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

\* Other (specify):

**\* 10. Name of Federal Agency:**

National Veteran Sports Program and Special Events

**11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:**

64.034

CFDA Title:

VA Grants for Adaptive Sports Programs for Disabled Veterans and Disabled Members of the Armed Forces

**\* 12. Funding Opportunity Number:**

VA-SPORTS-22

\* Title:

Grants for Adaptive Sports Programs for Disabled Veterans and Disabled Members of the Armed Forces

**13. Competition Identification Number:**

Title:

Miami-Dade County Parks, VICTOR Adaptive Sports Program

**14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):**

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

**\* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:**

Miami-Dade County Parks, VICTOR Adaptive Sports Program

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Add Attachments

Delete Attachments

View Attachments

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

16. Congressional Districts Of:

\* a. Applicant **FL-024**

\* b. Program/Project **FL-024**

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

17. Proposed Project:

\* a. Start Date: **09/01/2022**

\* b. End Date: **09/30/2023**

18. Estimated Funding (\$):

* a. Federal	<b>102,462.63</b>
* b. Applicant	<b>39,238.70</b>
* c. State	<b>0.00</b>
* d. Local	<b>0.00</b>
* e. Other	<b>0.00</b>
* f. Program Income	<b>0.00</b>
* g. TOTAL	<b>141,701.33</b>

\* 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?

- a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on .
- b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.
- c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.

\* 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)

Yes  No

If "Yes", provide explanation and attach

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

21. \*By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications\*\* and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances\*\* and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 218, Section 1001)

\*\* I AGREE

\*\* The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.

Authorized Representative:

Prefix: **Mr.**

\* First Name: **Jimmy**

Middle Name:

\* Last Name: **Morales**


Suffix:

\* Title: **Chief Operations Officer**

\* Telephone Number: **305-375-5071**

Fax Number: **305-375-1262**

\* Email: **Jimmy.Morales2@miamidadade.gov**

\* Signature of Authorized Representative: 

\* Date Signed: **Completed by Grants.gov upon submission.**

**3/29/22**



# Memorandum



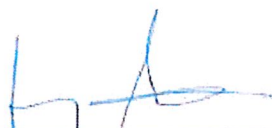
**Date:** March 9, 2021  
**To:** Jimmy Morales  
Chief Operations Officer  
**From:** Daniella Levine Cava *Daniella Levine Cava*  
Mayor  
**Subject:** Updated Signature Authority

---

Effective immediately, you are authorized to sign the following items for your respective departments on my behalf:

- Permits
- Senior Management Performance Appraisal Forms
- Leave slips (your department and immediate staff)
- Travel requests for up to 4 travelers except for international and legislation-related travels
- Telecommunications Device and Service Requests
- Vehicle requests
- Grant applications
- Plats
- Beach renourishment certifications
- Easements

Your judgment is crucial when reviewing items for signature. Please submit requests for administrative leave and executive salary reviews to me for consideration. If an item is controversial, sensitive or otherwise significant, please forward it to my attention or discuss it with me personally.



---

Jimmy Morales  
Chief Operations Officer

c: Lester Sola, Director, Aviation Department  
Juan Kuryla, Director, Seaport Department  
Christina White, Supervisor, Elections Department  
Maria Nardi, Director, Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department  
Lourdes Gomez, Director, Regulatory and Economic Resources  
Michael Fernandez, Director, Solid Waste Department  
Josenrique Cueto, Interim Director, Water and Sewer Department  
Office of the Mayor Senior Staff



### ASSURANCES - NON-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0040), Washington, DC 20503.


**PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.**

**NOTE:** Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the awarding agency. Further, certain Federal awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant:

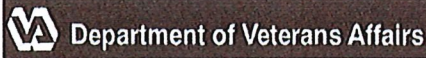
1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project cost) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of the project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States and, if appropriate, the State, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the award; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
4. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
5. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards for merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
6. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. §§1681-1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. §794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§290 dd-3 and 290 ee- 3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §§3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and, (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.
7. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal or federally-assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
8. Will comply, as applicable, with provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.

9. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. §276c and 18 U.S.C. §874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§327-333), regarding labor standards for federally-assisted construction subagreements.
10. Will comply, if applicable, with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is \$10,000 or more.
11. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clean Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-523); and, (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 93-205).
12. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§1271 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.
13. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq.).
14. Will comply with P.L. 93-348 regarding the protection of human subjects involved in research, development, and related activities supported by this award of assistance.
15. Will comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-544, as amended, 7 U.S.C. §§2131 et seq.) pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported by this award of assistance.
16. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
17. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."
18. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies governing this program.
19. Will comply with the requirements of Section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104) which prohibits grant award recipients or a sub-recipient from (1) Engaging in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect (2) Procuring a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect or (3) Using forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL 	TITLE Chief Operations Officer
APPLICANT ORGANIZATION Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces	DATE SUBMITTED 3/25/22

Standard Form 424B (Rev. 7-97) Back





# VA-FSC VENDOR FILE REQUEST FORM

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NEW	<input type="checkbox"/> UPDATE	DATE
VA FACILITY INFORMATION		PAYEE/VENDOR INFORMATION
STATION NUMBER	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL VENDOR REGISTERED IN SAM.GOV <i>(Required IAW FAR 4.1102)</i>	
STATION CONTACT	DUNS NUMBER 1 1 4 2 7 6 5 9 0	
STATION PHONE NUMBER      STATION FAX NUMBER	DUNS+4	
STATION EMAIL ADDRESS	SSN/TIN 5 9 6 0 0 0 5 7 3	
PAYEE/VENDOR TYPE <i>(Select one)</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C - COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> F - FEDERAL AGENCY <input type="checkbox"/> E - EMPLOYEE <input type="checkbox"/> O - FOREIGN FACTS ID <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="checkbox"/> I - INDIVIDUAL/HONORARIUM <input type="checkbox"/> A - AGENT CASHIER <input type="checkbox"/> V - VETERAN <input type="checkbox"/> U - UTILITY	NPI	
	<input type="checkbox"/> SMALL BUSINESS - PAYEE/VENDOR MUST BE QUALIFIED AS SMALL BUSINESS IN SAM OR FURNISH SBA CONFIRMATION	
MISCELLANEOUS ACTIONS <i>(Select one)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> WINRS <input type="checkbox"/> ASSIGNMENT <i>(All applicable documents)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> BILL OF COLLECTIONS <input type="checkbox"/> SETTLEMENT/TORTS <input type="checkbox"/> ALAC/LGY ACCOUNT # <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	PAYEE/VENDOR NAME Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Dept	
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">FOR QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS FORM: NVF CONTACT INFORMATION:</p> <p>VA-FSC CUSTOMER SERVICE HELP DESK: PHONE: 512-460-5380 EMAIL: <a href="mailto:VAFSCSHD@VA.GOV">VAFSCSHD@VA.GOV</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;">FOR ALL OTHER INQUIRIES:</p> <p>CUSTOMER CARE CENTER: 1-877-353-9791 STATION CARE CENTER: 1-866-372-1141</p> <p>SUBMIT ALL DOCUMENTATION VIA: SECURE FAX: 512-460-5221</p> </div>	DBA Jimmy Morales, Chief Operations Officer, Mayor Off	
	CONTACT	
	EMAIL ADDRESS Jimmy.Morales2@miamidade.gov	
	PHONE NUMBER (305) 375-5071	
	CURRENT ADDRESS <i>(Include Street, City, State and Zip Code)</i> 111 N.W. 1st Street, 29th Floor Miami, FL 33128	
	PREVIOUS ADDRESS <i>(Include Street, City, State and Zip Code)</i>	
	EFT/IACH <i>(Required IAW 31 CFR Part 208)</i>	
	BANK NAME Wells Fargo	
	BANK ADDRESS <i>(Include City, State and Zip Code)</i> 420 Montgomery Street San Francisco, CA 94104	
	NINE-DIGIT BANK ROUTING NUMBER 1 2 1 0 0 0 2 4 8	
ACCOUNT NUMBER 2 6 9 6 2 0 6 6 9 6 - 6 8 8		
ACCOUNT TYPE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CHECKING <input type="checkbox"/> SAVINGS		
NAME AND TITLE OF PAYEE/VENDOR Jimmy Morales, Chief Operations Officer, Office of the Mayor		
SIGNATURE OF PAYEE/VENDOR 		

NORMAL PROCESSING TIME IS 3 - 5 BUSINESS DAYS. WE DO NOT ACCEPT INVOICES

## LETTERS OF SUPPORT

A) RECRUITING TARGET POPULATION

B) PARTNERSHIPS

C) COMMUNITY SUPPORT

LETTERS OF SUPPORT

(RECRUITING TARGET POPULATION)

William Weaver II  
14929 SW 104<sup>th</sup> Street  
Miami, Florida 33186

Miami-Dade Parks and Recreation  
275 NW 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Miami, Florida 33128  
(305) 755-7800

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is William Weaver II, and I am a US. Army combat veteran who has benefited from the therapy of the Veterans Integrated into the Community through Outdoor Recreation (V.I.C.T.O.R) program. I was introduced to the therapy of the V.I.C.T.O.R program by my Miami Veterans Administration hospital recreation therapist Tabitha Aragon for additional or alternative treatment. From my first visit to my last the staff of V.I.C.T.O.R treats Veterans like family, from the use of first names, and personal stories which lead to the development of the program. The activities the program offers are unique as well as catered to disabled military veterans, which creates a welcoming environment. Being able to engage in a recreational activity with specialized sports equipment increases the therapeutic experience of being outdoors. I am fortunate to attend these therapy sessions free of charge a benefit of a partnership between the Miami Veterans Administration Hospital alongside Miami-Dade Parks and Recreation. Being able to engage in specialized recreational activities at no cost is exceedingly advantageous to so many Veterans as income limited. The V.I.C.T.O.R program is something that Miami-Dade county should be extremely proud of as it provides a service to its disabled military Veteran resident population, while giving tribute to all those that have served as well as sacrificed in the military honorable.

With great hope, and enthusiasm I hope that more funding is awarded to the Miami-Dade Park V.I.C.T.O.R program so more events may be added to the calendar expanding the possible availability for participation for other Veterans!

Gratefully,

*William Weaver II*

William Weaver II  
U.S. Army Veteran

RE: Letter of Support and Collaboration for Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces  
Grant Application for VA-Sports-22

To Who it may concern:

I am a paralyzed veteran of 47 years, currently 71 years of age.

The Miami-Dade Parks and recreation department in the past few years has given veterans extraordinary opportunities to participate in athletic events.

But the program succeeds far beyond athleticism. The social context that is commensurate always proves to be the most valuable. It gives us the opportunity to establish new friendships and outreach in the community.

I have participated in many of the programs, but my love is the game of Boccia. Since this venue has been introduced I have succeeded at the county, State, and national levels.

The above I hope registers with those that approve funding, this program is Worthy.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joe Del Vecchio".

1LT. Joe Del Vecchio, Retired  
jdarchitech@gmail.com

RE: Letter of Support and Collaboration for Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces  
Grant Application for VA-Sports-22

To Who it may concern:

As a Veteran in Miami-Dade County, I am writing to you in support for the Miami-Dade application for the 2022 Veterans Adapted Sports Grant.

I have had the pleasure of participating in the VICTOR program for many years. This program has given me the opportunity to participate in a variety of sports and develop new passions and new skills. Over the years, I have improved my skills in Archery, Boccia, Pickleball and Fishing through this program. Miami-Dade's program has taught me new ways to enjoy myself and given me a greater sense of community. To see so many people with disabilities have more opportunities to be a part of the community has been an amazing experience

I hope to continue my involvement with the program. I have always recommended this program to the Veterans I come across and I am excited for more opportunities to be outdoors and meet new people. Please consider giving this program full funding.

Sincerely,



Reginald Presley

U.S Army Veteran



To: Department of Veterans Affairs

From: Brian Bohne

Date: March 10, 2022

Re: Miami Dade disabled veterans programs

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter. I am a 100% disabled veteran and have been fortunate enough to take part in the Miami Dade parks and recreation trap shooting program for the past 5 years.

Everyone that runs the program is awesome and really knows how to work with us veterans.

I have made new friends through this program. That's something that isn't easy to find. I look forward to getting outdoors once a week and hanging out with my fellow veterans. This is much needed therapy for me and other vets.

Stability and consistency are 2 things that us veterans thrive on. This program has both of those things and much more. I sincerely hope they will renew the grant for this program.

Respectfully,

*Brian Bohne*

Brian Bohne

US Army Veteran

LETTERS OF SUPPORT

(PARTNERSHIPS)



## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Bruce W. Carter VA Medical Center  
1201 North West 16<sup>th</sup> Street  
Miami, FL 33125-1693



In Reply Refer To: 546/00/128

March 11, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to convey that the Bruce W. Carter Miami VA Medical Center's Community Integration Program in the Recreational Therapy department supports the Miami-Dade Parks receiving the 2022 Veterans Adapted Sports Grant through the Dept of Veteran Affairs in order to continue to develop and expand the Miami-Dade Parks Veteran's Adapted Sports program. I understand the joint cooperation is a vital component to the achievement of the mission.

While COVID has changed the dynamics of how some programming can take place, it is still important to provide these opportunities for the veterans in our community. Many veterans are looking for healthy ways to get out of their homes to be active and to interact with others. Now more than ever, programs like this are truly needed.

In my belief, this program is truly beneficial to the veterans that I work with. Many of them are dealing with PTSD, TBI, depression and anxiety and having limited opportunities to be actively engaged has exacerbated symptoms for some veterans. If Miami-Dade Parks receives these funds, they will be able to continue to provide these much needed adapted sports programs for veterans as they have been for many years now.

Sincerely,

Tabitha Aragon, CTRS, CARRS I



3799 North Andrews Avenue  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309  
(O) 954.565.8885  
(TF) 800.683.2001  
(F) 954.565.8843  
www.pvaf.org

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Chartered by the Congress of the United States

Re: Letter of Support and Collaboration for Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces  
Grant Application for VA-Sports-22

March 15, 2022

To whom it may concern:

I am writing in behalf the Paralyzed Veterans of America of Florida Chapter to express our support for Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces (MDPROS) application for the 2022 Veterans Adapted Sport Grant, (VA-Sports-22)

For over 12 years, we have collaborated with MDPROS who has been a leader in delivering adapted sports programming to individuals with physical disabilities. Examples include our participation on their annual Paralympic Experience, trap shooting competition, archery program, fishing program, the annual Boccia tournament, and their annual adapted waterski clinic. Several of our members have or currently participate in their wheelchair basketball program, the Miami Heats Wheels, which has provided them with the opportunity to travel and compete, even winning the National Championship.

Therapeutic Recreation staff working within MDPROS understands the needs facing the Veterans we serve and providing a therapeutic environment where Veterans can engage in sports and recreation helps prevent social isolation, depression, and physical decline. The VICTOR adapted Sports Program which offers 16 different adapted sports will increase the number of opportunities for our veterans to engage in adapted sports.

As a principle collaborator with MDPROS, we remain committed to collaborating events and recruiting our members for the program. We will post highlights of events in which our members participate in our periodical.

We remain committed to serving our Veterans and want to ensure that there are as many opportunities available to them as possible through collaborating efforts such as these, we can do so. Please consider full funding the VICTOR Adapted Sports Program through the Veterans Adapted Sports grant.

Sincerely,

*Jose Gonzalez*

Jose Gonzalez, Sports Director

Paralyzed Veterans of America Florida Chapter



Wounded Warrior Project  
223 Rosa L Parks Avenue, Suite 301  
Nashville, Tennessee 37203  
☎ 615.782.7226  
✉ 615.782.7233



Office of National Veterans Sports Programs and Special Events  
Department of Veterans Affairs  
810 Vermont Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20420

RE: Letter of Support and Collaboration for Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces  
Grant Application for VA-Sports-22

To whom it may concern:

I am writing on behalf of the Wounded Warrior Project to convey our support for Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces (MDPROS) application for the 2021 Veterans Adapted Sports Grant, VA-Sports-22. For the past three years, our collaboration efforts have increased significantly and many of our Veterans have been able to benefit from the VICTOR Adapted Sports Program.

Therapeutic Recreation staff working within MDPROS understand the needs facing the Veterans we serve and providing a therapeutic environment where Veterans can engage in sports and recreation helps prevent social isolation, depression, and physical decline. Because of the extensive program offerings MDPROS provides to Disabled Veterans, we have been able to redirect our programming funds into other activities for our members and their families while still providing adapted sports opportunities through the VICTOR Program. This has increased the overall opportunities that exist for Wounded Warriors in the South Florida region.

In our effort to provide ongoing support for the program, we will continue to refer our participants to the program and collaborate activities with MDPROS staff in order to maximize outreach in the region. Additionally, we will in-kind funding to cover the cost of additional Biscayne National Park fishing outings and additional ammunition for Trap Shooting as well as provide lunch during any activities in which Wounded Warriors participate.

We remain committed to serving our Veterans and want to ensure that there are as many opportunities available to them as possible and through collaborating efforts such as these, we can do so. Please consider full funding the VICTOR Adapted Sports Program through the Veterans Adapted Sports grant.

Sincerely,

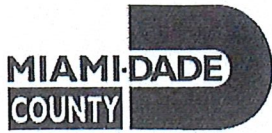
*DeeMike Daniels*

DeeMike Daniels

Alumni/Engagement Manager ddaniels@WoundedWarriorProject.Org

DUTY ★ HONOR ★ COURAGE ★ COMMITMENT ★ INTEGRITY ★ COUNTRY ★ SERVICE





miamidade.gov



Miami EcoAdventures  
Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department  
275 Northwest 2nd Street  
Miami, Florida 33128  
T 305-755-7903 F 305-755-7946

March 14, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter from the Miami Dade County Parks EcoAdventures unit in support of Miami Dade County Parks Therapeutic Recreation and Inclusion unit’s proposal to the Department of Veteran’s Affairs for the 2022 Adapted Sports Grant, VA-Sports-22, to operate the VICTOR Program. We strongly support this grant application and the organization’s goal to provide ongoing programming in adapted sports and activities to Disabled Veterans in the community.

Miami EcoAdventures connects people to naturally and culturally significant places through recreation and education programs helping to create advocates for parks and the environment. We offer a wide variety of nature-based recreation activities including kayaking, canoeing, snorkeling, hiking, and biking. Working with the Therapeutic Recreation and Inclusion team allows EcoAdventures to ensure that programs are accessible to anyone interested in participating.

The adapted sports program offered through Miami-Dade Parks provide Disabled Veterans with many opportunities that they would otherwise not be able to access to due to the cost or availability of programs. EcoAdventures has worked with the Therapeutic Recreation and Inclusion team with funds from this grant to provide 9 kayak tours serving 38 Veterans during 2020. The EcoAdventures team have received comments from Veterans who have participated in our kayak tours explaining how beneficial these tours are both for their mental and physical health allowing them to connect to nature, network with other Veterans, and get active in the outdoors.

Through this partnership with Therapeutic Recreation and Inclusion, this grant will help support the continued mental and physical benefit experienced by Veterans on our kayak tours. The EcoAdvetures team is proud of the work that we have done with VICTOR program in the past and want to continue to offer as many opportunities as possible to our Servicemen and Women as possible.

Thank you in advance for considering this proposal.

Sincerely,

Heather Tedlow  
Interpretive Nature Coordinator  
Miami EcoAdventures  
305-215-6029  
Heather.Tedlow@miamidade.gov

*Delivering Excellence Every Day*



March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Dear Committee members of the VASports-22 Grant:

I am writing on behalf of Florida International University's Recreational Therapy program in support of Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces application for the VASports-22 Grant to operate the VICTOR adaptive sports program for veterans with disabilities. Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces is a long-time partner of the university and has provided innumerable opportunities for our students to gain knowledge and hands-on experience through either internships, volunteer experiences, or personnel and veterans presenting at our classes and university events about the programs offered and populations served.

As a partner of Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces, the FIU Recreational Therapy program provides volunteers and interns at many adaptive sports events, programs, and clinics that are part of the VICTOR Program. The VICTOR program is a vital program in our South Florida community, and it serves as a means to train future Recreational Therapists; our students use this program to learn the technical, facilitation, and operational skills required to operate adaptive sports programs including archery, bocchia, fishing, handcycling, kayaking, pickleball, swimming, trapshooting, waterskiing, wheelchair baseball, and wheelchair basketball. Additionally, by participating in these programs, our students develop an improved awareness of the issues faced by so many disabled veterans which helps build advocacy for the veteran population.

I strongly encourage your consideration for Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation and Open Space's application to fund the VICTOR Program through the VASports-22 Grant as this program is very valuable to the disabled veteran community and to the future Recreation Therapists and other allied health professionals who will be working with veterans in the years to come.

If you need further information, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



**Tania Santiago Perez, PhD(c), CTRS**  
**Associate Teaching Professor, Rehabilitation and Recreational Therapy Program**  
**Program Director, Rehabilitation and Recreational Therapy Program**  
**School of Education & Human Development**  
**11200 SW 8th Street**  
**Modesto A. Maidique Campus, ZEB-336A, Miami, Florida 33199**  
**Ph: 305.348.3220 | E-mail: [tsantiag@fiu.edu](mailto:tsantiag@fiu.edu)**

DEPARTMENT OF COUNSELING, RECREATION & SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY  
College of Arts, Sciences, and Education  
School of Education and Human Development

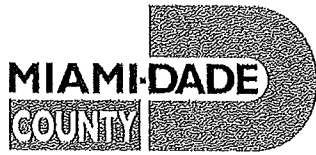
1200 S.W. 8th St. • Modesto A. Maidique Campus, ZEB-310 • Miami, FL 33199 • Tel: 305-348-9905 • Fax: 305-348-1515

Florida International University is an Equal Opportunity/Access Employer and Institution • TDD via FRS 1-800-955-8771



LETTERS OF SUPPORT

(COMMUNITY SUPPORT)



Community Action and Human Services Department  
Overtown Transit Village – North Building, 10th Floor  
701 NW 1st Court  
Miami, Florida 33136  
Phone: 786-469-4600  
[www.miamidade.gov](http://www.miamidade.gov)

Daniella Levine Cava, Mayor

March 21, 2022

Office of National Veterans Sports Programs & Special Events  
Department of Veterans Affairs  
810 Vermont Ave. NW  
Washington, D.C. 20420

Re: Letter of Support for the Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Grant Application for the FY 2022-2023 Veteran's Adapted Sports Grant (VA-Sports-22).

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is in support of the Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces (PROS) Grant Application for their FY 2022-2023 Veteran's Adapted Sports Grant (VA-Sports 22). PROS is a sister county department and has been a community partner of the Community Action and Human Services Department (CAHSD), Veterans Services Coalition since January 2019. The Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces provides adaptive sport services, referrals and direct advocacy services to hundreds of disabled Veterans.

The Miami-Dade County Veterans Services Coalition is a vital part of CAHSD's Veterans Services Program. The Veterans Services Program (VSP) assists Veterans and their families (spouse, children, widows, parents of the Veterans) with applying for Veteran benefits, filing claims and appeals to the United States Department of Veterans Affairs among many other services. If funding is awarded, the PROS will continue to provide free recreational programming and adapted sports to Disabled Veterans in Miami-Dade County.

I urge you to please consider the Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces funding request as the services that will be provided are needed in our community. We remain committed to continuing our collaboration with the Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces in all areas of mutual concern.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ivon Mesa".

Ivon Mesa, Assistant Director  
Community Action and Human Services Department