

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA
MEMORANDUM

CONSENT

TO: John A. Titkanich Jr., County Administrator
THROUGH: Richard B. Szyrka P.E., Public Works Director
THROUGH: Eric Charest, Natural Resource Manager
FROM: Alexis Peralta, Stormwater Educator & Fertilizer Enforcement
SUBJECT: **Stormwater Partnership with The Learning Alliance**
DATE: May 4, 2023

DESCRIPTION

Indian River County Stormwater staff have been requested by The Learning Alliance, a local 501(c)(3) non-profit dedicated to increasing children's education, to return as an environmental educator partner for the Summer 2023 Moonshot Academy Summer Program. The camp is an interdisciplinary, integrated literacy and arts curriculum that takes place both in classrooms and the outdoors with the environmental community partner (two days per week) over four weeks in the summer at two sites.

Staff is requested to participate twice a week, for three of the four weeks, to instill knowledge of the Lagoon, stormwater pollution, and a sense of personal responsibility to care for our environment through lessons that align with the STEAM into Literacy curriculum (STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics). These lessons include already created presentations and activities that the Stormwater Educator has used over the years in school programs, summer camps, and general learning (i.e. the Enviroscape stormwater model presentation, lessons on pollution and lagoon biodiversity, and litter cleanups). A field trip has been discussed to visit Osprey Acres Stormwater Park for a tour, physical exploration, and understanding of stormwater filtration.

County staff already have the necessary tools for the lesson plans. Staff is not required to fund any portion of the Moonshot Academy Camp; supplies, transportation, or the like. Potential materials requested by Stormwater staff will be requested of The Learning Alliance.

Summer 2021 was the first year Stormwater Division partnered with The Learning Alliance Moonshot Academy and it was very successful in terms of children's engagement and enjoyment learning about stormwater pollution and visiting Osprey Acres Stormwater Park. This partnership was repeated in 2022 with similar success.

FUNDING

County funding is not required. County staff time for participating in the Moonshot Academy Summer Camp will be one staff member, 4 hours per day, twice a week for three weeks, totaling 24 hours of staff time.

Any additional required materials to support program implementation will be purchased by The Learning Alliance.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff requests approval from the Indian River County Board of County Commissioners for staff to participate in the Moonshot Summer Academy Program again this year and authorize the Chair to execute the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) after review and approval of the MOU by the County Attorney's office.

ATTACHMENTS

Moonshot Academy/IRC Summer Program MOU

APPROVED AGENDA ITEM FOR May 16, 2023