

	LiGHT Grant Application 2026	
	2026 LiGHT Grant Cover Form and Guidelines	

Name of individual, group or organization: Wells Community Boys & Girls Club

Contact name(s): Ashleigh King CEO or Veronica Garza COO

Address: 1410 S. Wayne Street Bluffton, IN 46714

Phone number: 260-824-5070 Email Address: wellsbgc1450@gmail.com

Name of the program as it would appear on the grant award: Girls Who Code

Describe who the grant award will serve and approximate number affected: Any girls attending 3rd-8th grade. Number of participants: 18

Dollar amount requested: \$2700.00

Would the program be offered if only a *partial* grant from LiGHT is made? yes

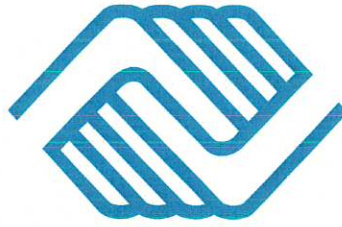
Summary paragraph of the grant award requested: _____

➤ May be utilized for part of the presentation.

Our Girls Who Code is a space where the girls can join a sisterhood of their supportive peers with the tools and confidence to understand technology, create with it, and imagine themselves as the innovators of tomorrow.

Complete all requested items below:

- 1) This Cover Form
- 2) Project Narrative, 1-5 pages typed, including:
 - What need in the Community will this program address? Give evidence to substantiate your request. (i.e., data, letters of recommendation, etc.)
 - What do you want to do?
 - What is your timeline?
 - What results do you expect?
 - If partnering with other organizations, please list.
 - Describe the program and tell how the funds from the grant will be used based on your budget
 - Signature page: To include endorsement of the project or program by the requesting agency's Board of Directors. This page must include a signature of the Board president.
- 3) Detailed budget



WELLS COMMUNITY BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

GIRLS WHO CODE

2026-2027 School Year Grant Request

FUNDING REQUEST	\$2,700
Applicant	Ashleigh King, CEO/Executive Director
Application date	August 25, 2026
Program audience	Girls in grades 3-8
Implementation period	2026-2027 school year

Empower Her to Code. Give Her the Confidence to Create. Inspire Her to Lead.

Girls Who Code will offer an engaging, supportive introduction to computer science, coding, artificial intelligence literacy, and problem-solving. No previous coding experience is required. Participants will learn together, build confidence, and begin seeing themselves as creators and innovators in a technology-driven world.

Program Purpose

What We Want to Do

We want to establish a strong foundation in computer science while empowering girls to use technology as a tool for creativity, communication, and problem-solving. Through beginner-friendly instruction and hands-on practice, participants will move beyond simply using technology and begin understanding that they have the ability to create with it.

- Introduce basic coding and computer science concepts.
- Build computational-thinking and problem-solving skills.
- Develop core artificial intelligence literacy.
- Complete guided online tutorials and project-based activities.
- Use age-appropriate books and learning resources, including coding, confidence, friendship, and community themes.
- Create and share simple individual or group coding projects.
- Strengthen teamwork, communication, bravery, confidence, and belonging.

Program Experience

Girls in grades 3-8 will meet in a welcoming club environment with supportive peers and caring adult guidance. Sessions will combine short lessons, interactive activities, coding practice, collaborative challenges, guest engagement, and opportunities to apply new knowledge through creative projects. The program will conclude with a showcase and celebration where participants can share their work with peers, friends, and family.

Why This Investment Matters

Early exposure to computer science can help remove barriers, grow confidence, and show girls that technology is a space where they belong and can lead. This program is not only about writing code; it is about developing the courage to try, the patience to solve problems, and the confidence to create something meaningful.

Expected Results & Evaluation

EXPECTED RESULT	INDICATOR OF PROGRESS
Increased knowledge	Participants will demonstrate a basic understanding of coding, computer science, computational thinking, and introductory AI concepts.
Improved confidence	Girls will report greater confidence in attempting STEM and technology-based activities.
Hands-on skill development	Participants will complete coding tutorials, challenges, and projects that apply what they have learned.
Creative application	Participants will create a simple individual or group program or digital project to share.
Stronger problem-solving	Girls will practice breaking problems into steps, testing solutions, and learning from mistakes.
Collaboration and belonging	Participants will build supportive peer relationships and practice teamwork and communication.
Continued STEM interest	Girls will leave with increased curiosity about coding, technology, and future STEM opportunities.

Measuring Success

Success will be evaluated through attendance and participation records, completion of coding activities and projects, staff observation, brief participant feedback, and the final showcase. Staff will look for growth in understanding, willingness to attempt new challenges, persistence when solving problems, collaboration, and confidence participating in STEM activities.

Program Timeline & Budget

2026-2027 School Year Timeline

WHEN	PHASE	ACTIVITIES
Fall 2026	Launch	Recruit girls in grades 3-8, introduce the club, establish expectations, distribute materials, and begin foundational coding activities.
Fall-Winter	Build the foundation	Work through beginner-friendly tutorials while developing computational thinking, problem-solving, computer science knowledge, and AI literacy.
Winter-Spring 2027	Create and apply	Use developing skills in increasingly independent and collaborative coding projects.
Spring 2027	Showcase and celebrate	Complete and share projects, reflect on growth, and recognize participant accomplishments.

Funding Request: \$2,700

CATEGORY	USE	AMOUNT
Snacks & Drinks	Healthy snacks, water, juice, and occasional treats.	\$550
Program Materials	Notebooks, folders, pens, markers, poster boards, printing, and classroom supplies.	\$600
Technology Supplies	Headphones, charging cords, flash drives, adapters, and basic equipment support.	\$450
Curriculum & Learning Resources	Books, coding guides, online tools, and project-based resources.	\$350
Guest Speaker & Workshop Support	Honorariums, thank-you gifts, or workshop materials.	\$300
Celebration & Recognition	Certificates, small prizes, showcase materials, and celebration items.	\$250
Contingency	Unexpected needs or price changes.	\$200
TOTAL	Girls Who Code program budget	\$2,700

With an investment of \$2,700, Wells Community Boys & Girls Clubs can provide local girls with a supportive environment to explore technology, build meaningful skills, discover new interests, and begin seeing themselves as future programmers, engineers, designers, entrepreneurs, and innovators.



**WELLS COMMUNITY
BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ENDORSEMENT

Girls Who Code | 2026-2027 School Year

The Board of Directors of Wells Community Boys & Girls Clubs proudly endorses the proposed Girls Who Code program and supports the request for \$2,700 in funding for implementation during the 2026-2027 school year.

The Board recognizes the importance of providing young girls with equitable access to computer science, coding, technology, and artificial intelligence literacy. This program directly supports our commitment to helping young people reach their full potential by creating a safe, encouraging environment where participants can strengthen problem-solving skills, build confidence, explore STEM interests, and learn to see themselves as capable creators and future leaders.

The Board further supports the program's emphasis on hands-on learning, collaboration, bravery, creativity, and belonging. We believe these experiences will provide meaningful educational value to girls in grades 3-8 and help establish a foundation for continued learning and future opportunities in technology-related fields.

Wells Community Boys & Girls Clubs is committed to providing organizational oversight, appropriate staff support, responsible stewardship of grant funds, and evaluation of program participation and outcomes. The Board supports the proposed timeline, budget, activities, and end-of-program showcase described in this request.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I affirm our endorsement of the Girls Who Code project and respectfully request the funder's consideration and support.

Pete Humphrey
Board Chair

Date
Wells Community Boys & Girls Clubs