

The White Family Foundation
Grant Request: #717
Redlands Christian Migrant Association
February 1, 2022

Date of grant proposal submission	Tuesday, February 1, 2022
Are you an IRS compliant 501(c)3 public charity/ nonprofit?	Yes
Legal name of organization	Redlands Christian Migrant Association
DBA Name if Applicable	RCMA
Address	402 West Main Street Immokalee, Florida 34142 United States
Website	http://www.rcma.org
Telephone	239-658-3560
Organization Director/ Title	Isabel Garcia
Contact Person/Title	Executive Director
Contact Person's Telephone	239-658-3560
Contact Person's Email	Isabel@rcma.org
Grant Request Amount	\$10,000.00

Please provide us with a brief description of your organization (no more than 500 words).

RCMA was founded in 1965 by people concerned about the children spending all day in South Florida's vegetable fields with their migrant-working parents. They saw the harsh and sometimes deadly environments these children had to endure and knew they couldn't sit idly by. These brave and selfless early members of RCMA took action and created a safe haven - two child-care centers located at Homestead's Redlands labor camp.

Next, they discovered hiring mothers from the fields made it far easier for families to reach out for help. So they trained them to become professional child care providers, giving these newly minted child-care workers a new chance at long-lost educations of their own. Farmworkers - often exploited and exhausted - brought their babies to RCMA and encountered staff who had experienced the same struggles in life. RCMA had developed a more holistic approach for improving children's lives by improving the lives of their families. As a result of these innovative and passionate efforts, childcare centers began filling to capacity.

RCMA operates 65 child care centers, 21 partner family child care homes, two charter schools, and several afterschool programs in 21 Florida counties, serving nearly 5,500+ children every year. RCMA truly embodies the values of honesty, respect, love of self, and caring for our neighbors and community.

Over the years, RCMA has broadened the range of its programs. Many of our centers accept infants as young as six weeks. Our after-school programs serve children ages 5 to 11.

In 2000, we opened charter schools in Immokalee, southeast of Fort Myers, and Wimauma, south of Tampa. In 2012, we added a charter middle school on the Wimauma campus. Together, the two Wimauma schools serve grades K-8. The Immokalee school serves grades K-7.

Grant Purpose (one paragraph)

Through physical activity, students learn about setting goals, resilience and teamwork. They develop healthy active lifestyles that help cope with stress and promote social intelligence. To aid the individual growth of our students through physical activities and athletic competition, the parents fundraised and Wish Farms donated funds to build a 52'x90' sports court on their Wimauma Community Academy (WCA) campus. This was planned to be a two phase project: phase one being the construction of the sports court, which was completed! The school utilizes the new space for physical education classes during the school day and their sports programs after school. RCMA's Charter Schools are exceptional and leverage their space and resources to achieve great things. Despite lack of access to athletic fields in the past, WCA middle schoolers created teams to participate in Soccer (co-ed), Cross Country (both genders), Ball Hockey (co-ed) and Boys Basketball. The teams are so successful, that they have won four consecutive soccer championships and two ball hockey championships. Now that they have their new sports court, they have added both Girls and Boys Basketball teams as well as a Volleyball team. The boys have 10 basketball games scheduled – 8 of which are being hosted at WCA because other schools don't have a sports facility. The girls team will host half of their games on the sports court. Phase two is the construction of a steel cover for the sports court. The steel cover project requires that footings be installed. The steel cover is now quoted to cost \$200,000. Our plan is to raise this through donations, grants and fundraising activities. This significant investment will transform this space into a multipurpose space – that can be used as outdoor learning environments when not being used for physical education or sports competitions. Please consider helping us build on their success by donating toward the costs of covering the sports court pavilion.

Annual Project/Program Budget (if request is for a specific project) \$200,000.00

Annual Organization Budget	\$98,000,000.00
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