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We are extremely excited to announce that the Georgia Department of Education has approved the Georgia Recreation and Park Association to receive funding through the competitive Building Opportunities in Out-of-School Time (BOOST) Grants Program! Funding for the BOOST program comes from the American Rescue Plan, and the grant program is administered by the Georgia Department of Education in partnership with the Georgia Statewide Afterschool Network (GSAN).

As an Awarded Statewide Grantee, the Georgia Recreation and Park Association and our Contracted Member Agency's will be able to expand access to serve more youth and increase programmatic quality along with expanding or enhance supports and services offered.

The Purpose of these funds are to:

- *Expand access to serve more youth, with an emphasis on students and communities most impacted by the pandemic,*
- *Reduce barriers, such as transportation and enrollment costs, to ensure access for all, and/or*
- *Increase programmatic quality and expand or enhance supports and services offered.*

Fifteen GRPA Member Agencies to date, are receiving funding through the BOOST Grants Program! We anticipate many more member agencies receiving Summer Contract Awards in the Very Near Future. These funds will create long-term impact as we strive to serve the youth in our communities.

We are excited to announce that the Georgia Recreation and Park Association has approved the **City of East Point** to receive a contract through the competitive Building Opportunities in Out-of-School Time (BOOST) Program! The City will use the funds to expand their popular afterschool tutoring service Academic Solutions, which is powered by Differentiating Minds Tutoring Service. Funding will be used to cover the cost of enrollment, additional materials, recruitment of qualified teachers and enhancing their educational field trips.

“The East Point Parks and Recreation Department is beyond thrilled to be the recipient of the Boost Grant,” said Shellord Pinkett, East Point’s Parks & Recreation Director. “We have always hung our hats on being the most unique and diversified Parks and Recreation Program in the state of Georgia. Our focus has always been centered around helping youth in becoming “More than an Athlete” by being on the forefront of virtual and non-traditional learning prior to and during the pandemic. This grant allows us to continue our mission of assisting youth throughout their academic and athletic journey.”

Join us in Congratulating the City of East Point in celebrating this Contract Award in the amount of **\$33,500**.



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“Caring for Georgia’s People and Parks”