

## **Executive Summary**

The Brentwood Boys and Girls Club is a nonprofit youth organization located in Raleigh, North Carolina. This particular organization is part of the nationally known Boys and Girls Clubs of America. The club resides in a predominantly Hispanic neighborhood that is home to mostly lower income families. The purpose of the club is to provide the youth of Raleigh with a safe place to learn and have fun after school. The Brentwood Boys and Girls Club helps to develop our youth by providing them with programs that enhance lifestyles and help build quality character traits. This organization is an after-school program that serves a high percentage of youth in need. It provides kids with a positive atmosphere to go to when school lets out. The programs offered are intended to help kids improve their behavior by getting them off of the streets and helping them find activities that interest them. One particular goal of the Boys and Girls Clubs of America is to give youth in need a sense of hope and direction. This helps kids to increase expectations of themselves and create goals that will ultimately lead them to a better and brighter future.

The Brentwood Boys and Girls Club has just recently decided to start a program that teaches kids how to play the game of baseball. They have begun a program called "Jr. RBI" that is for children between the ages of 5 and 12. The purpose of this program is to teach kids about the fundamentals of baseball and the importance of making the game fun. Since the program is just starting, the organization does not have a lot of equipment for the kids to use. The Brentwood Boys and Girls Club qualifies as a potential grant recipient from Batters Up USA.

Batters Up USA offers grants year-round to parks and recreation facilities, community centers, and after-school programs that are trying to start up a fun and non-competitive baseball program. The purpose of Batters Up USA is to encourage healthy lifestyles for kids through participation in local recreational baseball and softball programs. The grant offers a plethora of free equipment (bats, balls, gloves, helmets, and catcher's gear) to help organizations get started. Batters Up USA gives priority to inner city and after-school programs who serve a high percentage of youth in need. The Brentwood Boys and Girls Club fulfills all the requirements to be eligible for the grant since they are starting up a baseball program for a group of kids who are in need.

The following grant proposal supports the grant match between the Brentwood Boys and Girls Club and Batters Up USA. The Brentwood Boys and Girls Club requests baseball equipment from Batters Up USA so that 100 kids can have the opportunity to learn how to play the game of baseball while enjoying themselves at the same time. The club would like to be able to start the program with 20 bats, 40 gloves, 30 helmets, 10 dozen baseballs, and 10 sets of catcher's gear. This amount would provide enough equipment to help the program operate smoothly. It will also help teach the youth a valuable lesson on sharing by not having enough equipment for each kid to have their own equipment.

### Statement of the Problem

The Brentwood Boys and Girls Club of Raleigh, NC would like to start up a Jr. RBI program at its location. Approximately 100 youngsters have shown interest in participating in the baseball program. The program would teach our youth about the fundamentals of the game of baseball and how to have fun in the process. The club has a great vision for the start of this new program, but it is being put on hold due to a lack of equipment. Most of the kids in the Brentwood Boys and Girls Club come from lower income Hispanic families so they are not able to afford bats, gloves, helmets, etc. This means that it is going to be up to the Brentwood Boys and Girls Club to provide equipment so the baseball program can happen. The club currently does not have the funds to be able to provide enough equipment for 100 kids. Equipment would cost the club approximately \$5,600 for bats, gloves, helmets, baseballs, and catcher's gear and the budget only allows \$4,000 for new programs. The table below provides a layout of the costs of the items needed to start the Jr. RBI program. If the program begins to grow like envisioned, then these costs will only go up because there will be a need for more equipment. The Batters Up USA program would provide the Brentwood Boys and Girls Club with a good foundation of equipment to start with. This would allow the club to use the budget money elsewhere. For instance, providing uniforms so that the club can form a league and place the kids on teams. Not only will the youth get the opportunity to learn how to play the game of baseball, but they will also get to learn the importance of teamwork. Not having to take money out of the budget for equipment would also allow the Brentwood Boys and Girls Club to hold free baseball clinics for the kids so that they have the opportunity to learn more about the game and sharpen their skills.

Item	Quantity	Cost per Item	Total Cost
Bats	20	\$100	\$2,000
Gloves	40	\$50	\$2,000
Helmets	30	\$20	\$600
Baseballs	10 dozen	\$20 per dozen	\$200
Catcher's Gear	10 sets	\$80	\$800
			<b>\$5,600</b>

## Batters Up USA Equipment Grant Application

1. **Name:** Brentwood Boys and Girls Club  
**Date:** November 5, 2013  
**Shipping Address:** 2025 New Hope Church Road  
Raleigh, NC 27604  
**Phone:** (919) 790- 8284
2. **Mission Statement**  
The Brentwood Boys and Girls Club of Raleigh, NC is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens.
3. **Is this a new program?**  
Yes
4. **Does this program involve youth from lower income families?**  
Yes. The Brentwood Boys and Girls Club is located in an area that is primarily made up of lower income Hispanic families.
5. **If so, what percentage?**  
70%
6. **Affiliation (Parks Department, School, YMCA, Boys & Girls Club, Booster Club, Civic Club, etc.)**  
Boys and Girls Club
7. **Is the organization boys only, girls only, or boys and girls?**  
Both boys and girls are allowed to be a part of the Brentwood Boys and Girls Club.
8. **Number of locations where equipment will be used?**  
The equipment will be used at one location.
9. **Number of participants at each location?**  
There are approximately 100 youth who want to participate in the new Jr. RBI program at Brentwood Boys and Girls Club.
10. **Age groups at each location?**  
The kids at the Brentwood Boys and Girls Club are between the ages of 5 and 12.
11. **Length of the season?**  
The summer season begins in May and ends in July. The fall season starts up in September and ends in October.

**12. Type of equipment of primary need?**

Since we are just starting our program we are short on all equipment. Our primary needs are bats, gloves, helmets, baseballs and catcher's equipment since they tend to be the most expensive. The Brentwood Boys and Girls Club wants to be sure to have plenty of protective equipment so that they can create the safest playing environment possible. The club requests 20 bats, 40 gloves, 30 helmets, 12 dozen baseballs, and 10 sets of catcher's gear. This will allow us to provide our youth with enough equipment to run a successful baseball program. These quantities allow us to have a few extra items in case some of the equipment breaks or malfunctions.

**13. When do you need the equipment?**

The equipment is needed by February so that the club can do inventory on the items. The Brentwood Boys and Girls Club can then advertise the new equipment with the intent of sparking more interest from our youth.

**14. Where did you hear about us?**

The club came across the Batters Up USA website when researching grants for the new baseball program. We noticed that the club fulfilled all the requirements needed to apply for the grant. If awarded, the grant would provide us with our specific equipment needs to move forward with the start of our program.

## Appendix

### Webpages of organizations involved:

- Brentwood Boys and Girls Club- <http://wakebgc.org/about/>
- Batters Up USA- <http://www.battersupusa.org/>
- Jr. RBI- <http://www.bgca.org/whatwedo/SportsFitnessRecreation/Pages/JrRBI.aspx>

### Potential Timeline

- February 2014- Begin inventory of all equipment
- March 2014- Create a structure for the new Jr. RBI program based on facility access and the amount of equipment the club has to issue. This will help determine how many fields to reserve and how many teams can be established.
- April 2014- Begin holding registration for all youth that are interested in being a part of the new baseball program.
- May 2014- Startup of the Jr. RBI baseball program

### Wake County Boys and Girls Clubs Advisory Council

- Ralph E. Capps- President/CEO
- Blanche R. Bacon
- Earl Johnson, Jr.
- W. Trent Ragland, Jr.
- James T. Stone
- George Turner
- M. L. "Chuck" Wachtel III
- S. Monty White, Jr.
- G. Smedes York