



About DREAMSTARTER® by Running Strong for American Indian Youth®

In celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Running Strong's National Spokesperson, Billy Mills, achieving his dream of winning an Olympic gold medal and using that victory to help him give back to the American Indian community, Running Strong for American Indian Youth launched the Dreamstarter Grant Program in 2014. Each year, Running Strong will award ten \$10,000 Dreamstarter grants to ten Native Youth.

Each youth applicant will apply in partnership with a Mentor Organization. The youth applicant of each Dreamstarter team will receive an additional \$500 "I am a Dreamstarter" award upon the successful completion of the grant period. Each year will have a theme. This year's theme is Social Action.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2022 Dreamstarter (Social Action):

Dreamstarter applications opened	10/1/2021
Completed application deadline	1/15/2022
Successful applicants notified	3/1/2022
Dreamstarter Academy in Washington, DC	4/21 - 4/24/2022
\$10,000 Dreamstarter Grants Awarded	4/24/2022
Projects must be completed	6/30/2023

APPLICATION CHECK LIST:

- Parts I: Completed Dreamstarter Application Form with all **Informational questions** answered by both Applicant and Mentor Organization
- Parts II: Completed Dreamstarter Application Form with all **Essay questions** answered by both Applicant and Mentor Organization
- Part III: 2 references each for the Applicant and for Mentor Organization
- Part IV: Signed consent forms from Applicant, Mentor and parent/guardian of Applicant if under 18
- Part V: Attachments including:
 - Dreamstarter Project BUDGET
 - Dreamstarter Project BUDGET NARRATIVE
 - Dreamstarter Project TIMELINE
 - Copy of Applicant's Certificate of Indian Blood/Tribal enrollment card (if applicable)
 - IRS tax exemption letter for Mentor Organization
 - Headshot of Dreamstarter applicant and 2-3 photos of your community or idea
 - Completed W-9 form from the IRS for Mentor Organization
 - Mentor organization's most recent audit (if applicable)



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For an e-mail copy as a PDF or in Word, please email Dreamstarter@IndianYouth.org and put "Request Application" in the subject line. Applications may be handwritten as long as they are clear. Please write answers in ways that give us the best idea about you and your idea.

Thank you for your interest in applying to be a Running Strong Dreamstarter®! Each year, Running Strong will grant \$10,000 to 10 Native youth who are impacting their community in pursuit of their dreams. Running Strong is committed to helping Native populations thrive through long-term investment in communities and people. All applicants will have the support and guidance of our staff to help your grant year be successful, offering mentorship on your application, budget, timeline, resources, and any other help you may need.

HOW IT WORKS:

Running Strong is granting \$10,000 to 10 Native youth across the nation to jumpstart their dreams around the theme of Social Action. Partnering with the Non-profit or Mentor Organization of their choice, Dreamstarters will use the grant to achieve their dreams for their community to educate, advocate, or engage with their community or a particular social issue they want to serve. The Mentor Organization and the Dreamstarter Applicant should work together to complete this application, outlining their idea, its funding needs, and how it will benefit youth and the community.

IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES:

October 1, 2021: Applications OPEN

January 15, 2022: Applications are DUE by 11:59 pm EDT. You may use this form and email it to Dreamstarter@IndianYouth.org along with the required attachments, mail this form and the attachments to our office at 8301 Richmond Highway, Suite 200, Alexandria, VA 22309 (Attn: Dreamstarter 2022)

March 1, 2022: Running Strong notifies successful applicants.

April 21-24, 2022: Dreamstarter Academy with all Dreamstarters & their Mentors in Washington, DC.

April 24, 2022: Dreamstarter and Mentor organization receives \$10,000 grant.

November 15, 2022: Program Update DUE

June 30, 2023: Grant period ENDS and all grant monies must be spent.

August 15, 2023: All receipts and Grant Report DUE

JULY 1, 2022 – JUNE 30, 2023: ALL DREAMSTARTER FUNDS MUST BE USED DURING THIS PERIOD.

ELIGIBILITY:

1. Applicants must apply in partnership with a registered 501©3 or 7871 nonprofit organization, known as the Mentor Organization.
2. Applicants must be enrolled in a state or federally recognized tribal nation.
3. Applicants must be between the ages of 14 and 30 at the time of application.
4. Proposed projects must fit within the theme "Social Action." Have an idea that you aren't sure is eligible? Email us at Dreamstarter@IndianYouth.org.
5. Applicants and Mentors MUST be available to attend Dreamstarter Academy in Washington, DC from April 21-24, 2022.

PART I. APPLICANT AND MENTOR INFORMATION

Name for your Dreamstarter idea:

Briefly describe your Dreamstarter Idea (150-word count):

of people you intend to help with your idea: _____

Dreamstarter Applicant Information

Applicant First Name: _____ Last name: _____

Preferred Name (Name that would appear on a name tag): _____

Date of Birth (must be between 14 and 30 at time of application) _____ Age _____

Gender _____ Preferred Pronouns _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

Telephone _____ Cell _____

E-mail _____ T-shirt size: _____

Best way to Contact you: Phone Cell Text Email Snail Mail Other _____

Best time(s) to reach you by phone: _____ Time zone: _____

UPS/Street address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

Tribal Nation _____ Are you enrolled? Yes ___ No ___

What is your Census/CIB Number? _____ - _____ If not enrolled, is your parent enrolled? Yes ___ No ___

Tell us about the connection you have to your community:

Nearest Airport (This is the airport that you would fly out from & return to for the Dreamstarter Academy):

How did you learn of the Dreamstarter Grant Program?

If a student, you attend: Elementary Middle High College Other _____

Current grade _____ Graduation Year _____ Pursuing what field? _____

School name: _____ Telephone _____

If a graduate, you graduated from: High School GED College Grad School Other _____

Year: _____ School Name: _____ Degree _____

School or Community Activities (if applicable):

Work experience and current/past employment (if applicable):

Hobbies/What do you like to do:

Where are you on social media? Please list all that apply:

- Website: _____
- Blog: _____
- Facebook: <https://facebook.com/>_____
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/>_____
- Instagram: <http://instagram.com/>_____
- YouTube: <http://youtube.com/user/>_____
- Other: _____

Which social media page(s) do you use the most? _____

Are you related to Billy Mills? Yes No. If so, how?

Dreamstarter Mentor Organization Information

Organization Name _____ Year Founded _____

Contact Person _____ Title _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

Telephone _____ Cell _____ FAX _____

UPS/Street address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

E-mail _____

Where are you on social media? Please list all that apply:

- Website: _____
- Blog: _____
- Facebook: <https://facebook.com/>_____
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/>_____
- Instagram: <http://instagram.com/>_____

YouTube: <http://youtube.com/user/>_____

Other:_____

Which social media page(s) does your organization use the most? _____

Organization's Mission Statement:

____ # of individuals served each year ____ # Full-time Staff ____ # Part-time Staff ____ # Volunteers

Total Organization budget_____ For fiscal year ending _____ (month/date/year)

Organization's Tax ID (EIN) number _____

Type of Organization: 501(c)(3) nonprofit non-501(c)(3) with fiscal sponsor (see below)

Tribal program (7871) Other _____

Fiscal Sponsor (if applicable) _____

Is your organization audited each year? Yes No

Some applicants may be asked to provide a most recent audit.

Your organization's primary partner (Mentor) with the Dreamstarter Applicant:

Name _____ Title _____

Telephone _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____ T-shirt size _____

Age _____ Gender _____ Preferred pronouns _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

UPS/Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

Tribal Nation (if applicable) _____

Best way to Contact you: Org's Phone Cell Text Email Snail Mail Other _____

Best time(s) to reach you by phone: _____ Time zone: _____

How did you learn of the Dreamstarter Grant Program?

Are you related to the Dreamstarter? Yes No If so, how?

Are you related to Billy Mills? Yes No If so, how?

Please provide the name(s) of radio stations or newspapers that serve your community:

PART II. ESSAY QUESTIONS

Please answer the following questions in a separate document. Applicants and Mentor Organizations may talk about these answers together but please have each answer their questions in their own words.

A. Dreamstarter Applicant Questions (Please aim for approximately 500 words per question. However, if you need more or fewer words, that's ok. We want to hear your answers in a way that works best for you.)

- (1) Please describe yourself (for example, your name, age, clans, parents, where you were raised, what you like to do, favorite subjects in school, etc.)
- (2) Please describe your community (what it's like to live there, is it urban or rural, etc.)
- (3) Please explain your dream idea. How did you think of it? Who do you want to reach? Does anything like your idea exist?
- (4) What would you say are your greatest strengths? What are you good at?
- (5) How does your application fit into one of this year's theme (Social Action)?
- (6) Please describe what Billy Mills' story means to you.

Some applications will include a phone interview with the Applicant.

B. Dreamstarter Mentor Questions (Same word count guidelines as for applicant essay questions above).

- (1) Please briefly describe your organization.
- (2) Please tell us about the staff member or volunteer who will be your organization's primary partner and will serve as the Dreamstarter's Mentor on the project.
- (3) Please describe how you know the Dreamstarter applicant.
- (4) Why you think he/she and your organization should be a Dreamstarter?

Some applications will include a phone interview with the Mentor Organization.

C. Applicant and Mentor Together Questions (Same word count guidelines as for applicant essay questions above).

- (1) Please fill out a timeline that lists the steps that you intend to take to make your dream a reality using the attached template.
- (2) Please attach a draft budget and budget narrative showing how you plan to use the \$10,000 using the attached template.
- (3) Please list 3-5 things that you want to accomplish.
- (4) What challenges do you see in making your dream a reality?
- (5) If chosen, how do you plan to evaluate your results?
- (6) How will you continue the dream after the grant period is over?
- (7) Is there anything else that you want Running Strong and Billy Mills to know about you?

PART III. REFERENCES

Some applicants will be asked to provide 2 references that we can contact via phone or email.

Dreamstarter Applicant:

1. Name _____
How he/she knows the Applicant _____
Email _____
Phone _____
Best way to contact this reference: Phone Email Other _____
Best time(s) to reach this reference: _____ Time zone: _____

2. Name _____
How he/she knows the Applicant _____
Email _____
Phone _____
Best way to contact this reference: Phone Email Other _____
Best time(s) to reach this reference: _____ Time zone: _____

Dreamstarter Mentor Organization:

1. Name _____
How he/she knows the Organization _____
Email _____
Phone _____
Best way to contact this reference: Phone Email Other _____
Best time(s) to reach this reference: _____ Time zone: _____

2. Name _____
How he/she knows the Organization _____
Email _____
Phone _____
Best way to contact this reference: Phone Email Other _____
Best time(s) to reach this reference: _____ Time zone: _____

Any additional comments:

I certify that the information included in this application is accurate to the best of our knowledge.

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____

Print signer's name here _____

Mentor Organization Signature _____ Date _____

Must be authorized

Print signer's name here _____



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PART IV: APPLICANT CONSENT FORM

I, _____ (“Applicant”), hereby certify that I am an applicant, with _____ (“Mentor/Partner Organization”) for Running Strong for American Indian Youth (“Running Strong”) Dreamstarter® grants, and hereby certify the following:

- I have read and reviewed Running Strong’s application materials in detail.
- I understand and agree that, if I am chosen as a Dreamstarter, the \$10,000 grant award will be distributed directly to Mentor/Partner Organization and that I and my Mentor/Partner Organization are responsible for appropriate use of those funds.
- I am a citizen of the United States or its territories.
- To my knowledge, I am not related, by blood or marriage, to anyone affiliated with Running Strong for American Indian Youth or its National Spokesperson, Billy Mills. If I am, I have disclosed it in this application.
- I grant permission for my photo/image, name, age, and all other personal identifiers listed in the application form to be published on Running Strong’s public internet site, press releases, presentations and other materials.
- I grant permission for media coverage as it pertains to Running Strong and my initiative.
- I absolve Running Strong of any liability pertaining to my application, initiative, and usage of awarded funds.
- I absolve Running Strong, its staff, Board members, committees, and volunteers of any liability for violations of law or wrongful conduct undertaken by grant recipients.
- I understand that Running Strong assumes no responsibility for the protection of any intellectual property that results from a Dreamstarter grant.
- I understand that I may be required to sign an affidavit of eligibility and a liability and publicity release as a condition of receiving any award.
- I understand that my attendance may be requested at an event of Running Strong, including a meeting of the Board of Directors or donors, as a condition to receiving my award.
- **I understand that if chosen for a Dreamstarter® grant, I and a representative from my Mentor/Partnership Organization must attend the Dreamstarter® Academy in Washington DC**

from April 21-24, 2022. I understand that I will be rooming with another Dreamstarter of similar age and gender. I understand that while flight, hotel, meals and transportation expenses will be paid for by Running Strong, I will be responsible for other out of pocket expenses.

PHOTO RELEASE:

I authorize Running Strong for American Indian Youth® to use any video/photos of Grant program events & participants in their Annual Report, newsletters, website, social media, video, fundraising letters or other publications to document its support & need for this Grant program. I understand these images maybe used for promotional, news, fundraising, research and/or educational purposes. This authorization shall continue indefinitely unless I otherwise revoke said authorization of specific photos in writing, recognizing that it may take up to thirty days to remove from any on-line location and up to six months until any/all print material is distributed (Running Strong will then not include photo(s) in any further print run.)

To certify these statements, please sign and print your name and date:

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

Applicant's Name (please print) _____



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PART IV: PARENT/GUARDIAN CONSENT FORM (If Applicant is under 18)

I, _____, hereby certify that I am the legal parent/guardian/person in loco parentis of an applicant of the Running Strong for American Indian Youth (“Running Strong”) Dreamstarter® grant, and hereby certify the following:

- I have read and reviewed my child’s application and Running Strong’s application materials in detail and consent to the initiative being proposed.
- I understand and agree that a Running Strong for American Indian Youth Dreamstarter® Grant will be distributed directly to my child’s Mentor/Partnership Organization and the Mentor/Partnership Organization is ultimately responsible for appropriate monitoring of the use of those funds once they are disbursed.
- I grant permission for my child’s photo/image, name, age, and all other personal identifiers listed in the application form to be published on Running Strong’s public internet site, press releases, & presentations.
- I grant permission for media coverage of my child as it pertains to Running Strong and my child’s initiative.
- I absolve the Running Strong, its affiliates, board and staff, and volunteers of any liability pertaining to my child’s application, initiative, and usage of awarded funds.
- I absolve the Running Strong of any liability for violations of law or wrongful conduct undertaken by grant recipients.
- I understand that Running Strong assumes no responsibility for the protection of any intellectual property that results from a Dreamstarter® grant.
- I grant permission for my child’s photo/image, name, age, and all other personal identifiers listed in the application form to be published on Running Strong’s public internet site, press releases, and presentations.
- I grant permission for media coverage of my child as it pertains to Running Strong and my child’s initiative.
- I absolve Running Strong, its members, committees, and volunteers of any liability pertaining to my child’s application, initiative, and usage of awarded funds.

- **I understand that if my child is chosen for a Dreamstarter® grant, he/she and his/her Representative from the Mentor/Partnership Organization must attend the Dreamstarter® Academy in Washington DC from April 21-24, 2022 . I understand that my child’s Mentor will act as his/her Chaperone on this trip. I understand that I am not permitted to attend any part of Dreamstarter® Academy, except for the Closing Reception. I understand that my child will be rooming with another Dreamstarter of similar age and gender. I understand that while flight, hotel, meals and transportation expenses will be paid for by Running Strong, my child will be responsible for other out of pocket expenses.**

PHOTO RELEASE:

I authorize Running Strong for American Indian Youth® to use any video/photos of Grant program events & participants in their Annual Report, newsletters, website, social media, video, fundraising letters or other publications to document its support & need for this Grant program. I understand these images maybe used for promotional, news, fundraising, research and/or educational purposes. This authorization shall continue indefinitely unless I otherwise revoke said authorization of specific photos in writing, recognizing that it may take up to thirty days to remove from any on-line location and up to six months until any/all print material is distributed (Running Strong will then not include photo(s) in any further print run.)

To certify these statements, please sign and print your name and date:

Applicant’s Name (please print) _____

Your relationship to applicant (print) _____

Your Signature _____ Date _____

Please print your name here: _____



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PART IV: MENTOR ORGANIZATION CONSENT FORM

I, _____ (“Mentor”), hereby certify that I am the Mentor, with _____ (“Mentor/Partner Organization”) with applicant, _____ (“Dreamstarter”) for Running Strong for American Indian Youth (“Running Strong”) Dreamstarter® grants, and hereby certify the following:

- I have read and reviewed Running Strong’s application materials in detail.
- I understand and agree that, if our Dreamstarter is chosen as a Dreamstarter, the \$10,000 grant award will be distributed directly to Mentor/Partner Organization and that I, my Dreamstarter and my Mentor/Partner Organization are responsible for appropriate use of those funds.
- I am a citizen of the United States or its territories.
- I am not related, by blood or marriage, to anyone affiliated with Running Strong for American Indian Youth or its National Spokesperson, Billy Mills. If I am, I have disclosed it in this application.
- I grant permission for my photo/image, name, and all other personal identifiers listed in the application form to be published on Running Strong’s public internet site, press releases, presentations and other materials.
- I grant permission for media coverage as it pertains to Running Strong and my initiative.
- I absolve Running Strong of any liability pertaining to my application, initiative, and usage of awarded funds.
- I absolve Running Strong, its staff, Board members, committees, and volunteers of any liability for violations of law or wrongful conduct undertaken by grant recipients.
- I understand that Running Strong assumes no responsibility for the protection of any intellectual property that results from a Dreamstarter® grant.
- I understand that I may be required to sign an affidavit of eligibility and a liability and publicity release as a condition of receiving any award.
- I understand that my attendance may be requested at an event of Running Strong, including a meeting of the Board of Directors or donors, as a condition to receiving my award.
- **I understand that if my Dreamstarter is chosen for a Dreamstarter grant, I and my Dreamstarter must attend the Dreamstarter® Academy in Washington DC from April 21-24, 2022. I understand that I will be rooming with another Mentor of similar age and gender. I understand**

that while flight, hotel, meals and transportation expenses will be paid for by Running Strong, I will be responsible for other out of pocket expenses.

PHOTO/VIDEO RELEASE:

I and the Mentor Organization authorize Running Strong for American Indian Youth® to use any video/photos of Grant program events & participants in their Annual Report, newsletters, website, social media, video, fundraising letters or other publications to document its support & need for this Grant program. I and the Mentor Organization understand these images maybe used for promotional, news, fundraising, research and/or educational purposes. This authorization shall continue indefinitely unless an authorized representative of Mentor Organization otherwise revokes said authorization of specific photos in writing, recognizing that it may take up to thirty days to remove from any on-line location and up to six months until any/all print material is distributed (Running Strong will then not include photo(s) in any further print run.)

To certify these statements, please sign and print your name and date:

Mentor's Signature _____ Date _____

Mentor's Name (please print) _____

PART V. ATTACHMENTS

Please be sure to include the following attachments with your application:

- (1) **Grant Budget.** Please email Dreamstarter@IndianYouth.org if you need a grant budget template. This budget must be detailed, including specific dollar amounts requested for each line item and all income & expenses.
- (2) **Grant Budget Narrative.** Please explain in detail what each budget line item is, what is the purpose of each budget line item and why it's needed. If you have questions about this part, contact us at Dreamstarter@IndianYouth.org.
- (3) **Project Timeline.** Please email Dreamstarter@IndianYouth.org if you need a project timeline template.
- (4) **Tribal Enrollment Document/Identification (if applicable).** If you are enrolled, you must attach your tribal documentation.
- (5) **IRS Tax Exemption Letter for Mentor Organization**
- (6) **A HEADSHOT of yourself that you are willing to share on social media and 2-3 photos of Applicant in their community or 2-3 photos of Mentor Organization in action.** Successful applicants' photos and details about their project will be shared on the Running Strong website.
- (7) **Signed W9 form for Mentor Organization.** If you need a blank form, you can download one here: <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw9.pdf>
- (8) **Mentor organization's most recent audit (if applicable).**

Submitting Your Application

VIA MAIL:

Applications via mail are due (postmarked) by November 9, 2021. Mail applications to:
Running Strong for American Indian Youth
8301 Richmond Highway, Suite 200
Alexandria, VA 22309
ATTN: Dreamstarter

VIA EMAIL:

Applications via email are due by November 9, 2021 by 11:59 pm EST. Email applications to Dreamstarter@IndianYouth.org with your Applicant name in the subject line.

VIA FAX:

Applications will not be accepted via fax. **Applications will ONLY be accepted via mail or email.**

Questions?

If your question cannot be answered there, please email us at Dreamstarter@IndianYouth.org.