Billy Mills and Dreamstarter

Dreamstarter® FAQs

What is this year’s theme?
We will be accepting applications for Dreamstarter 2020: Health & Wellness.

What are the application dates & deadlines?

When is the Dreamstarter Academy in Washington, DC?
The Dreamstarter Academy for 2020: Health & Wellness will take place April 23 - April 27, 2020.

Do I have to have a mentor organization at the time of application?
Yes. All Dreamstarter applications must apply together with their mentor organization.

Can I have a hard copy of the application form?
Contact Dreamstarter@IndianYouth.org or 703-317-9881 Ext. 2149 to request a hard copy application to be mailed to you via regular USPS.

How do I get updates about Dreamstarter?
You can visit IndianYouth.org/Dreamstarter and sign up for the Dreamstarter email list. You can also follow us on Facebook or Twitter.

Billy Mills (Oglala Lakota) was raised on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota. In 1964, he achieved his dream of winning an Olympic gold medal, and since then he has used that victory to help empower American Indian communities. To celebrate Billy’s dream and his leadership, Running Strong is proud to have started the Dreamstarter® Grant Program to help the next generation of American Indian leaders make their dreams come true.

“The Dreamstarter program is one more step towards overcoming the poverty of dreams among so many Native Young People.”

-Billy Mills

Dreamstarter 2020: Health & Wellness

8301 Richmond Highway, Suite 200, Alexandria, VA 22309
(703) 317-9881 Fax: (703) 317-9690 info@indianyouth.org
www.indianyouth.org
What is the Dreamstarter® Grant Program?

**The Grant**

Each year, Running Strong will provide ten $10,000 grants to American Indian youth to help make their dreams a reality. Working with a non-profit organization that will act as their mentor, each Dreamstarter will have the opportunity to create and manage community-level projects based on their dream. Ten Dreamstarter projects will be chosen each year with particular focus on that year’s theme. Past themes have included Wellness, Arts & Culture, Education, Science & Environment, and Entrepreneurship.

**The Applicants**

To apply for this grant, each eligible Dreamstarter must:

- Be between 14 and 30 years old
- Be an enrolled member of a current or terminated federal/state Indian Nation, or identify with/be connected to your tribal community
- Identify and apply with a qualifying 501(c)(3) or 7871 non-profit or school serving one or more American Indian/Alaska Native/Native Hawaiian communities.

For more information on eligibility and application requirements, visit www.IndianYouth.org/Dreamstarter

**The Academy**

Every Dreamstarter with his or her mentor organization will be sent to an all-expenses paid, four-day Dreamstarter Academy training workshop hosted in Washington, D.C. by Running Strong. In addition to learning invaluable skills for making their dream become reality, grant recipients will have the opportunity to meet Olympic Gold Medalist and Running Strong Spokesperson Billy Mills and other prominent Native American figures in Washington, D.C.

**The Recipients**

To read about the past Dreamstarter projects and follow their progress, visit IndianYouth.org/Dreamstarter.

“**The Dreamstarters come from communities and tribes all over the country. They are bound together by the idea that, despite the challenges, their dreams can guide them to build a strong future for themselves and for their communities.**”

– Billy Mills

Oglala Lakota, National Spokesperson

Start your dream at IndianYouth.org/Dreamstarter

Dreamstarter 2020 Grant Applications close November 14, 2019