

Bee the Change Pilot

Dear Valued Volunteer and Volunteer Coordinator,

The Bee Cause Project believes that YOU can #BeeTheChange! Through this grant, we hope to help libraries make small changes to improve pollinator habitats and promote even bigger changes in their community while supporting pollinator literacy. This program is meant to provide the tools that libraries need (1) to create an indoor pollinator focused learning area, (2) to install pollinator-friendly habitat boosters on campus, and (3) to collaborate with your Forester Financial volunteers to deliver 25 bee-themed activity kits to children and families. Collectively, these steps will increase awareness for the plight of pollinators and inspire students and families to become environmental stewards. Read on to learn more!

Participants

The Bee Cause Project has reached out to public libraries and school libraries in each of the following target cities in preparation for this pilot:

- *Willard Elementary School, Pasadena CA*
- *Community Montessori School, Tampa, FL*
- *Collier Elementary School, Mobile, AL*
- *Great River School, St. Paul, MN*
- *Eminence Elementary School, Eminence, KY*
- *Los Angeles County Public Library, Downey, CA*
- *Windsor Hills Elementary, Baltimore, MD*
- *Denver Public Library, Denver, CO*

One public library or school library in each target city will participate in this pilot, alongside the Foresters local volunteer coordinator who will be responsible for ensuring the grant materials are all assembled and delivered on time to their designated library location. This program is developed to be flexible to meet the libraries and the volunteers where they are, so there is flexibility in how each grant is executed. As your nonprofit partner, our intention is to provide live and pre-recorded support to all participants to ensure the greatest impact and value are achieved. And, we will schedule a live meeting to ensure Foresters is comfortable with the volunteerism component described below.

Details

Each chosen *Library* will be paired with a *Foresters Community Leader* who is

committed to preparing and delivering the 25 pollinator-themed activity kits. Each kit will include 4 separate activities that are family-friendly and age-appropriate. They are intended to start a conversation with the children on the importance of pollinators and will help the library highlight the additional *bee books* that are now available in the library for checkout.

The Bee Cause will provide the volunteers and volunteer coordinators with additional support and educational materials to ensure each component is delivered with confidence.

Below is a list of amazing resources included in the #BeeTheChange program:

I. INTRODUCTION - provided to libraries and volunteers

- Customized welcome video by Bee Cause
- Introduction facilitated by Bee Cause for all participants (library, volunteer, nonprofit)
- Login invitation to the [OER Commons](#) (encompassing the entire Bee Cause catalog of curriculum, lesson plans, educator’s guides, and more)

II. INDOOR COMPONENT - provided directly to libraries

- [Bee a Friend to Pollinators lesson plan](#), including a Pre and Post Campus Assessment
- 11 Pollinator Focused Books (hand-selected to address all levels of learning)
- Custom-created Educator Guides for each book, perfect for a Book Club or Read Aloud activity
- Customized bulletin-board friendly poster to highlight the *Bee a Friend to Pollinators* program

III. OUTDOOR COMPONENT - provided directly to libraries

- Sustainable Native Bee House to install onsite
- Custom signage to highlight the *Pollinator Friendly Campus* program
- \$100 stipend to be used in conjunction with a Grow Bag to plant a pollinator-friendly arrangement to be displayed on the library’s campus

IV. COMMUNITY OUTREACH - provided directly to volunteers to coordinate and assemble for libraries

- “Conversation Starter” Activities for 25 children (can be used as an incentive/give-away for those who check out one of the pollinator-themed books). Each kit has each of the following components:
 - DIY Sustainable Native Bee House

- Planting a Wildflower Garden from Seed
- Save the Bees Bracelet
- Honey Tasting Experience
- Adopt A Bee Certificate

V. VOLUNTEERISM

- Live webinar with the Foresters volunteer leaders to ensure they understand the deliverables, the partnership with the libraries, and the potential for in-person extension opportunities.
 - Primary opportunity:
 - Organize and Assemble 4 individual activities into 25 separate “kits” to be shared with students, children, and/or their families
 - Add-on opportunities:
 - If there is a scheduled event or opportunity onsite, volunteer to assist students in completing the activities in their DIY kits (in-person option)
 - Assist your library partner in leading the [*Bee a Friend to Pollinators*](#) campus assessment with the students (in-person option)
 - Visit the library and lead a Read Aloud using one of the donated pollinator-themed books (in-person option)

The Bee Cause Project is thrilled to be working with you and your community to raise awareness of the plight of pollinators. We look forward to you joining our network and hope you will decide to #beethechange!

If you are looking for more information about The Bee Cause Project, please check out our website at thebeecause.org.

We’d like to share some of our favorite video links, including some of our own, to inspire you about this pollinator journey!

- [The Bee Cause Project Digital Field Trip - Honey Harvest](#)
- [The Critical Importance of Pollinators](#)
- [Pollination: Trading Food for Fertilization](#)
- [What Are Pollinators?](#)

Thank you so much,
The Bee Cause Project Team