

# Difference Maker

## 2019-20 Grant Proposal Packet

### Items Included:

- Overview of Program, p. 1-2 [retain for your records]
- Proposal/Application\*, p. 3-5
- Parent Notice (signature required)\*, p. 6
- Teacher Recommendation\*, p.7

\*These Forms must be 100% completed and submitted to the middle school student activities office, or Ali Bray's mailbox by end of the day on Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>.

PLEASE ENSURE THAT TEACHERS HAVE AMPLE TIME TO COMPLETE THE TEACHER RECOMMENDATION FORM IN ORDER TO COMPLY WITH THE MARCH 13<sup>TH</sup> DEADLINE!

**Questions about the process or program should be directed to Ali Bray:  
[abray@marinerscs.org](mailto:abray@marinerscs.org)**

## **MCS “Difference Maker” Grant Overview**

### **Purpose:**

To provide an opportunity for MCS students to develop and execute their own “Difference Maker” initiatives.

Mariners Christian School has set aside “seed funding” to be awarded to the Difference Maker grant recipients in Elementary (4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade) and Middle School (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade).

The selected recipients will receive the specified funds, mentorship and guidance as a part of the program, however the expectation is that the student will lead the initiative. A core value for this program is to cultivate collaboration between the grant recipient and other MCS students so that it is a shared initiative with multiplied impact.

### **Core Values:**

- 1) **Compassion:** To foster hearts of compassion.
- 2) **Inspiration:** To provide inspiration for our students to become “Difference Makers” *[people who have eyes to see a need, the faith to ask God how to meet that need, and the commitment to take action in service]*.
- 3) **Collaboration:** To cultivate an environment of collaboration where Difference Maker grant recipients benefit from the support and partnership of their fellow classmates and extended MCS family.
- 4) **Activation:** To empower students to move from observation, through **the design thinking process**, and into action.

### **Requirements:**

- 1) Complete and return your Project Proposal/Application by deadline. (Deadline – Wednesday, March 6th.) This must include your parent’s signature.
- 2) As part of the application, student must provide a teacher recommendation. Please request this prior to the due date.

### **Interview:**

Students will receive communication regarding whether they have been selected as a grant finalist.

# 2019-2020 “DIFFERENCE MAKER” GRANT PROPOSAL

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Current Grade:** ☐ 4<sup>th</sup> ☐ 5<sup>th</sup> ☐ 6<sup>th</sup> ☐ 7<sup>th</sup> ☐ 8<sup>th</sup> **Homeroom Teacher:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parents' Names:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please feel free to attach additional sheets of paper if you need more space to share your thoughts on any of the following questions.

**1. Why do you want to be a part of the “Difference Maker” program?**

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**2. The “need” I have identified and would like to partner with God to meet as a “Difference Maker” is (provide a brief description of the goal of your project):**

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**The basis for your proposal is your “Needs Statement.”**

Example Needs Statement: \_\_\_\_\_ **(who)** \_\_\_\_\_ **needs a way to** \_\_\_\_\_ **(do what)** \_\_\_\_\_ **because/so**  
**(why)** \_\_\_\_\_.

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**3. How did you learn about this area of need?**

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**4. Have you volunteered or been involved in helping with this same need you have identified in the past? ☐ yes ☐ no If yes, please briefly share how:**

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**4. Requested grant amount: \_\_\_\_\_ (the amount of money you are requesting)**

**How would you use the Difference Maker grant funding?**

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**Feel free to attach research on costs associated with implementing your project or the proposed budget for this project.**

**5. MCS wants to support you in a variety of ways. What are some ways your classmates could support you and collaborate with you in this effort (research support, service, prayer, using Share2Wear days or all school drives, etc.)?**

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**6. Are there any other local organizations currently investing in solving this same problem that you could learn from? ☐ yes ☐ no If yes, please include them as research/evidence supporting your project:**

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**7. Is there anything else you would like for us to know?**

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**Qualifications of a Leader**

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As a pre-requisite of applying to serve in this leadership role, please READ and initial each "Difference Maker Leadership" quality as an affirmation that you understand the "Qualifications of a Leader."

- ☐ Honor God - exemplify "Christ-like" behavior in all you do and say
- ☐ Maintain a positive attitude
- ☐ Encourage others
- ☐ Follow through on responsibilities
- ☐ Maintain good listening skills
- ☐ Respect fellow students and authority
- ☐ Serve with humility ("Not to us, Lord, but to Your Name be the glory...")

If chosen to be a Difference Maker Grant Recipient, I will represent MCS with integrity, kindness and respectfulness. I will seek to work collaboratively with students, faculty & staff, and community leaders so that we can maximize the impact of our actions together.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Parent Notice

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**Dear Parents,**

We are thrilled that your son/daughter would like to apply for the “Difference Maker Grant” at Mariners Christian School for the **2019-20** school year! We require your permission and informed support as part of the process. The students who are selected as the grant recipients will be awarded seed funding to allocate towards a project they have identified and specified in their grant proposal. The students will be provided with mentorship in the research, planning, and implementation stages of this project. The purpose of this letter is to ensure that both the parents and students understand that serving in this capacity will require responsibility, time, and dedication.

### ***Time Commitment***

The time commitment will vary depending on the project the student develops. However, students should expect to dedicate some of their lunch recess times as well as some time before or after school for planning purposes. We will work with the students' (and families') schedules in setting meeting times.

### ***Character***

Service provides the opportunity for building character; it develops leadership skills, confidence, responsibility, organization, and teamwork.

### ***Documentation***

We would like to document the project development and implementation so that we are able to tell the stories and celebrate what God does through our “Difference Makers” at future chapels and events. By signing below, you are agreeing that it is okay for your child to have photo and video footage captured throughout the process with the intention of sharing this footage as a part of the storytelling.

**We have read and agree to adhere to the requirements described above.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*Please complete and return to the middle school student activities office or Ali Bray's mailbox  
**by end of the day on Wednesday, March 13th.***

*Any questions? Please contact Ali Bray -- [abray@marinerscs.org](mailto:abray@marinerscs.org)*

# Difference Maker Project Proposal

## Teacher Recommendation

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It is the student's responsibility to request a teacher recommendation. It is HIGHLY RECOMMENDED that you give ample time to your teacher in order for them to complete it by the application due date which is 3/13/19.

\*\*\*\* Teachers, please put completed teacher recommendation in Ali Bray's mailbox\*\*\*\*

To my knowledge \_\_\_\_\_ (student's name) routinely demonstrates the morals, manners, behavior, and integrity that MCS faculty and staff desire of their students.

Teacher Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Comments (Optional):

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