

State Of Maryland

2021 Bond Initiative Fact Sheet

1. Name Of Project		
Warrior Canine Connection		
2. Senate Sponsor	3. House Sponsor	
Feldman		
4. Jurisdiction (County or Baltimore City)	5. Requested Amount	
Montgomery County	\$500,000	
6. Purpose of Bond Initiative		
the acquisition, planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, site improvement, and capital equipping of the Warrior Canine Connection facility		
7. Matching Fund		
Requirements:	Type:	
Grant		
8. Special Provisions		
<input type="checkbox"/> Historical Easement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Sectarian	
9. Contact Name and Title	Contact Ph#	Email Address
Senator Feldman		brian.feldman.district@senate.state.md.us
Rick Yount		
10. Description and Purpose of Organization (Limit length to visible area)		
<p>Warrior Canine Connection (WCC) has provided 5,050 Veterans who suffer from Post Traumatic Stress (PTS) and/or Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBI) with a mission to support their fellow Veterans by training mobility service dogs. Harnessing the healing power of the Warrior Ethos and the human-animal bond, WCC's program offers a safe, effective and therapeutic intervention that mitigates symptoms of PTS/TBI and produces well-trained service dogs to be partnered with Veterans with disabilities. Because of WCC's program design, each dog in the program has the ability to participate in the healing of not only one, but up to 60 Veterans, before being placed as a service dog with a Veteran. When we consider the growing number of Veterans diagnosed with PTS/TBI and an alarming suicide rate, it becomes clear that we must invest in new innovative therapies to reverse this trend.</p>		

11. Description and Purpose of Project (Limit length to visible area)

In partnership with Montgomery County and the State, WCC is creating a premier center where Veterans and their families can come to heal from the visible and invisible wounds of war. Once renovated, a large barn at the site will provide space for WCC's unique therapeutic service dog training program, as well as critical facilities needed to breed, train and partner future service dogs. In 2014, WCC signed a lease with the MD Department of Natural Resources and immediately began efforts to transform the Schaeffer Farm property. At the inception of the lease, the property was in very poor condition--abandoned and unsafe for the public. Over 6 years, WCC has invested \$2.2 M in property renovations. Capital costs in block 12 reflect only those for the large barn renovation.

Round all amounts to the nearest \$1,000. The totals in Items 12 (Estimated Capital Costs) and 13 (Proposed Funding Sources) must match. The proposed funding sources must not include the value of real property unless an equivalent value is shown under Estimated Capital Costs.

12. Estimated Capital Costs

Acquisition	\$0
Design	\$542,000
Construction	\$3,579,000
Equipment	\$650,000
Total	\$4,771,000

13. Proposed Funding Sources - (List all funding sources and amounts.)

Associated General Contractors of America (AGC)	\$270,000
WCC Board of Directors	\$500,000
Montgomery County	\$300,000
Capital Campaign (Individuals, foundations)	\$2,416,000
Davis Construction	\$70,000
Carlyle Group	\$215,000
State of Maryland	\$1,000,000
Total	\$4,771,000

14. Project Schedule (Enter a date or one of the following in each box. N/A, TBD or Complete)			
Begin Design	Complete Design	Begin Construction	Complete Construction
09/01/2016	04/01/2021	06/1/2021	06/01/2023
15. Total Private Funds and Pledges Raised	16. Current Number of People Served Annually at Project Site	17. Number of People to be Served Annually After the Project is Complete	
4329461.00	1,828	3,047	
18. Other State Capital Grants to Recipients in the Past 15 Years			
Legislative Session	Amount	Purpose	
2020	\$500,000	Large Barn Renovation Project Shaeffer Farm Propert	
19. Legal Name and Address of Grantee		Project Address (If Different)	
Warrior Canine Connection, Inc. 14934 Schaeffer Road Boys, MD 20841		Warrior Canine Connection, Inc. 14934 Schaeffer Road Boys, MD 20841	
20. Legislative District in Which Project is Located	15 - Montgomery County		
21. Legal Status of Grantee (Please Check One)			
Local Govt.	For Profit	Non Profit	Federal
[]	[]	[X]	[]
22. Grantee Legal Representative		23. If Match Includes Real Property:	
Name:	Rick Yount	Has An Appraisal Been Done?	Yes/No
Phone:	3012601111		
Address:		If Yes, List Appraisal Dates and Value	

24. Impact of Project on Staffing and Operating Cost at Project Site			
Current # of Employees	Projected # of Employees	Current Operating Budget	Projected Operating Budget
39	48	2590067.00	3805850.00
25. Ownership of Property (Info Requested by Treasurer's Office for bond purposes)			
A. Will the grantee own or lease (pick one) the property to be improved?			Lease
B. If owned, does the grantee plan to sell within 15 years?			
C. Does the grantee intend to lease any portion of the property to others?			No
D. If property is owned by grantee any space is to be leased, provide the following:			
Lessee	Terms of Lease	Cost Covered by Lease	Square Footage Leased
E. If property is leased by grantee - Provide the following:			
Name of Leaser	Length of Lease	Options to Renew	
Maryland Department of Natural Resources	25	3 (10 year terms)	
26. Building Square Footage:			
Current Space GSF	12,026		
Space to be Renovated GSF	8,800		
New GSF	3,800		

27. Year of Construction of Any Structures Proposed for Renovation, Restoration or Conversion

1938

28. Comments

Since 2015, WCC has been working to raise necessary capital construction funds to support the renovation of the Schaeffer Farm property, Maryland State Park property which is leased from the State of Maryland Department of Natural Resources. Total all-time Capital Construction gifts to enhance the property include 1,784 gifts, totaling \$4,329,461 in cash and \$688,328 in gifts in kind of services and materials. These funds support all necessary capital improvements; already \$2.2 M of this has been invested in property renovations.

As the most significant part of the overall property improvements, WCC is working to renovate a 1938 large dairy barn to serve as the organization's headquarters and training facilities at the Schaeffer Farm property. Current barn size is 12,026 GSF. A total of 8,800 GSF of that space is targeted for renovation; 3,226 GSF will be demolished; and 3,800 GSF of new construction will be added.

Within 5 years of completion, WCC anticipates that this critical renovation project will allow the organization to serve 2,047 Veterans and Military Family Members annually, and host more than 1,000 Maryland volunteers at the property. From its national headquarters in Maryland, WCC already served 804 unique Veterans and Military Family Members in 2019, and engaged 1,024 area volunteers in its work. Total served by WCC in 2019 prior to the COVID pandemic was 1,828.

WCC is honored to be a partner to the MD DNR's Wounded Warrior and Veterans Outreach Program- <https://dnr.maryland.gov/publiclands/Pages/Warrior-Canine-Connection.aspx> Our unique public-private partnership is exactly what is needed to help care for the many thousands of Maryland's wounded, ill and injured Service Members and Veterans. We firmly believe that this successful partnership can serve as a national model of effective collaboration.

Home to more than 360,000 Veterans, WCC hopes to gain support from the State of Maryland to realize this premier center of healing. Made possible by federal, state and non-profit partners working together, this center has the opportunity to make a significant impact on the mental health and well-being of the Veterans and their Military Families who call Maryland home.