



**VARNA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
943 Dryden Rd. P.O. Box 4771 Ithaca NY 14852-4771  
[www.VarnaCommunityAssociation.org](http://www.VarnaCommunityAssociation.org)  
**EIN 16-6052986**

Supervisor Jason Leifer  
Dryden Town Board Councilmembers  
95 East Main St. Dryden NY 13053

February 6, 2017

**Funding request: \$6500 for a playground perimeter fence**

Dear Dryden Town Board:

A year ago, the all-volunteer VCA embarked on an ambitious project in support of our corporate purpose to be an educational resource to the Hamlet of Varna and surrounding communities. The new project – the Varna After School Program (VASP) – was registered and opened at the start of the 2016-17 school year. Since then, VASP has been providing care to children enrolled in PreK through grade 5.

Securing registration with the NYS Office of Children and Family Services (NYSOCFS) was a hectic process requiring changes to our facilities, hiring VASP staff, purchasing furniture and supplies, and so on. Throughout the process, neither anyone from OCFS nor anyone from the Child Development Council (which acts on behalf of NYSOCFS locally) indicated, when asked, that a fence around the playground was required.

Rather, it was the childcare liability insurance company that informed us, several weeks after initiating coverage, that a perimeter fence for the playground was required. A 30-day timeframe for completion was given. Fortunately, our agent at Bailey Place in Dryden secured an extension, and we have until May 31<sup>st</sup> 2017 to install the fence. **As a condition of registration for childcare programs, NYSOCFS requires liability insurance. Failure to install a fence by May 31<sup>st</sup> will mean losing insurance coverage for VASP.**

In turn, losing insurance coverage will mean VASP loses its NYSOCFS registration and must close. According to statistics provided by the Child Development Council there are only enough spaces locally in accredited programs for 38% of the 3100 families needing after school care. The greatest need is for very young children enrolled in PreK. Since we accept four-year-olds enrolled in PreK, VASP fills a unique and vital need for local families.

**To keep VASP in operation, we need to install a fence around the playground. We are asking the Town to provide \$6500 for this project from the Recreation Reserve Fund.**

The VCA board developed a business plan for VASP and considered it carefully before moving forward with VASP. A perimeter fence for the playground was never part of the plan; nor was the fact that NYSOCFS registration would be granted the day before school opened, when most families already had childcare plans in place. Having only half the number of students enrolled, compared to the number we budgeted for, has meant lower-than-expected income from tuition.



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To date, funds from a variety of sources have been used to pay for running VASP:

- Child Development Council quality improvement grant
- Community Foundation of Tompkins County grant
- DSS child care subsidy payments
- Giving Is Gorges 2016 one-day online fundraiser
- Individual and business donors
- Interest-free loans from individuals
- Parent tuition payments
- Park Foundation (grant application pending)
- Rummage and bake sale receipts
- Social Service League of Tompkins County grant
- United Way Community Care fund
- United Way FOCUS fund

We fully expect VASP to reach full enrollment by the start of the next school year. We will continue to seek grants and conduct fundraising activities to support the ongoing costs of running VASP. **We cannot, however, install a playground fence without outside support, and we are counting on your help of \$6500.**

Thank you for considering this request. Please remember that the VCA provides service to the Town by creating new jobs paying a living wage, maintaining free public outdoor recreational facilities, by providing a polling site for two voting districts, by hosting public meetings regarding Town business, and through many other services and activities – among which, VASP is a standout.

Sincerely,

Janet Morgan, Chair  
Varna Community Association, Inc.  
[chair@VarnaCommunityAssociation.org](mailto:chair@VarnaCommunityAssociation.org)

VASP NYS OCFS registration #761382



# WHITMORE FENCE WFC COMPANY

Fred Whitmore, OWNER 126 NORTH STREET  
(607) 844-9011 Dryden, NY 13053

## Quotation

**TO:**

Varna Community Association  
943 Dryden Rd.  
Ithaca, NY 14850  
Attn: Simon St Laruent

Estimate By: Peter Whitmore

QUOTATION DATE: 11/15/2016

PHONE:

FAX:

CELL: (607) 227-0858

Material: Commercial Chain Link      Linear Ft: 356      Height: 4'  
 Style: Galvanized Chainlink Fence  
 Hole Depth: 36"      Hole Width: 8"  
 Face: Out      Terrain: Hilly Lawn  
 Top Line: With Grade  
 Obstructions: None      Removal By: N/A  
 Distance off Property Line:  
 Height off Grade, Low: 1"      High: 4"      Ideal: 2"

	Price
Specifications: Terminal Posts: 2" x SS-40 Line Posts: 2" x SS-20	\$6,500.00
Specs, (contd): Toprail: 1 5/8" x SS-20	\$0.00
Specs, (contd): Fabric: 2" x 9 ga Aluminized	\$0.00
Gates: 1 ea. 4' Walk Gates (1 3/8" welded frame)	\$0.00
Gates (contd):	\$0.00
Option #1 Price assumes tax exempt/non-prevailing wage	\$0.00
Option #2	\$0.00

<b>Sub-Total</b>	\$6,500.00
<b>Sales Tax</b>	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	\$6,500.00
<b>Deposit Due</b>	\$3,250.00

WHITMORE FENCE COMPANY agrees to guarantee above fence to be free from defects in materials and workmanship for one year. WHITMORE FENCE COMPANY shall advise the customer as to local zoning regulations but responsibility for complying with said regulations and obtaining any required permits shall rest with the customer. WHITMORE FENCE COMPANY will assist the customer, upon request, in determining where the fence is to be erected, but under no circumstance does WHITMORE FENCE COMPANY assume any responsibility concerning property lines or in any way guarantee their accuracy. If property pins cannot be located it is recommended that the customer have the property surveyed. WHITMORE FENCE COMPANY will assume the responsibility for having underground public utilities located and marked. However, WHITMORE FENCE COMPANY assumes no responsibility for unmarked sprinkler lines, or any other unmarked buried lines or objects. The customer will assume all liability for any damage caused by directing WHITMORE FENCE COMPANY to dig in the immediate vicinity of known utilities. The final billing will be based on the actual footage of fencing built and the work performed. Partial billing for materials delivered to the job site and work completed may be sent at weekly intervals. Adjustments for material used on this job and adjustments for labor will be charged or credited at the currently established rates. Additional charges for any extra work not covered in this contract that was requested by the customer will also be added. The full amount of this contract along with any additional charges will become payable upon completion of all work whether or not it has been invoiced. A finance charge of 1 1/2% per month (or a minimum of \$1.00), which is an annual percentage rate of 18%, shall be applied to accounts that are not paid within 15 days after completion of any work invoiced. All materials will remain the property of WHITMORE FENCE COMPANY until all invoices pertaining to this job are paid in full. The customer agrees to pay all interest and any costs incurred in the collection of this debt.

**Customer Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Whitmore Fence Representative Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_