

Project Narrative – anc1D 2008 Small Grants



Title: In 15 words or less, give a title that describes the project's main beneficial result.

Green Jobs for Greener Food Gatherings

Narrative: 500 words or less, all on this page. Label paragraphs - A: Group. B: Project. C: Benefits. D: Leverage.

See attached.

Thankyou!

LINA PARIKH

A. Group

Green Circles (founder, Lina Parikh)

Mission

Our mission is two-fold:

- To create one model of '**Green Jobs**' in the neighborhood
- To make food events in the area more environmentally healthy

History

We are a small neighborhood group with much passion and lots of innovative social entrepreneurship ideas around the environment. Many of our efforts to date have been with the Green Souls, a group of community people whose mission is to transform the practices of All Souls Church into a beacon of environmental sustainability. All Souls Church is a congregation of up to 900 members with constant programs and events throughout the year. It also has good neighborhood partnerships, including with CHANGE, Clinica del Pueblo, Neighbors Consejo, and many more affiliates.

B. Project

Idea - Green Jobs and Greener Food Events

The use of disposable-ware is one of the largest contributors to waste in our society. While convenient, the use of disposables causes a lot of unnecessary waste in our landfills. It also contributes to higher asthma rates of our neighbors who live in the areas where the landfills and their incinerators are located - primarily low-income, minority neighborhoods.

Some groups/organizations already have real dishware and dishwashing machines BUT they lack the time/strategy/people needed to think through the logistics of using real dishware. This is where we come in - our Green Circles team will do all the work for them! We will identify and liaison with neighborhood partners to employ people in the neighborhood to create a 'green dish-service' for food events. The hosting organization would fund our green services through their own innovative mechanisms - such as tickets that take into account the cost of our services.

Project Scope

We will identify 2 - 4 events to implement our Green Dish Service, the first of which we will run as a *pilot*. Due to the Christmas holidays and the January inaugural events, we propose a project timeframe of Feb-March 2009. The goal is to create an initial business model that can be used in our community then and even in the greater DC area. In

partnering with Green Souls, we hope to have a set of eager volunteers we can recruit to help us implement this project.

Projected Expenses - \$200 - \$500

- Needs assessment document - for venue partners
- Project coordination, liaisioning with neighborhood groups, employment contract creation, and general implementation time
- Advertising Flyers
- Report of accomplishments
- Miscellaneous funding to offset pilot program costs (not sure if needed)

C. Benefits

There are multiple benefits for Green Jobs that help create Green Events

- 1) Economic - sustainable, innovative employment projects
- 2) Environmental sustainability
- 3) Social justice promotion – avoids sending trash to other people's neighborhoods

D. Leverage

We believe there is a market for green jobs – we'd like to have the opportunity to create one model of it.

Due to the word count, we are limited in our ability to provide further details but we would be happy for the opportunity to do so and would absolutely welcome help and more tools from the Commission to help make this business proposition a reality!

Contact

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