



June 6, 2005

To Potential Grantees,

Kindred Spirits is proud to announce the creation of its non-profit Foundation. Our mission is:

To create a global network of people dedicated to supporting local and sustainable development efforts which improve the quality of life in impoverished communities worldwide.

As one of our current host communities, we are pleased to inform you of your privileged status among the initial group of applicants. It is our primary intent, during this first year of operation, to provide a dependable system of financial support to our friends across the globe who are engaged in innovative projects, even when we are unable to send groups of volunteers to your countries. Above all, we hope to empower communities like yours to fulfill their own dreams and ambitions.

Over the longer-term, our Foundation seeks to:

- ***combine financial support and hands-on partnership to strengthen impoverished communities worldwide.***
- ***This unique approach accelerates community development through its grantmaking and by enabling donors to work side by side with a given community on a project of its choosing.***

Consistent with Kindred Spirits Tour and Travel, our Foundation:

- ***recognizes that people in your community can best define meaningful solutions for sustainable social change.***
- ***empowers groups to make their own decisions about how to use the grant money to best meet the needs and priorities of your community.***

The programs we have identified as priorities are:

- *Education*
- *Infrastructure Development*
- *Economic Development*
- *Health Care*
- *Environmental Sustainability*
- *Emergency Relief and Conflict Resolution*
- *Cultural Preservation within Indigenous Communities*

Based on your already established relationship with our company, and stated commitment for future collaborations, you are automatically eligible to apply for funds! For consideration, all you need to do is fill out the attached form and submit it to us on the timeline outlined below.

Please keep in mind these additional criteria for proposals:

- Groups *do not* need to be registered non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to qualify for funding.
- A group may only have *one proposal* of any type under consideration at a given time.
- The MAXIMUM grant awarded in 2005-6 will be *\$500 USD*. (Please note that the amount granted might be less than the amount requested if and when an award is made.)
- Projects must be based in a country *outside the United States*. (We do not currently fund US based organizations.)
- Projects should benefit the *entire community*, and not just certain individuals.
- For the time being, preference will be given to *on-going projects nearing completion*, rather than new projects.
- We will attempt to meet the *most pressing needs* first.
- Priority will be given to those projects where *no other funding resources currently exist*, and *seek to include the input of those being served or benefiting from its activities*.

The review process for all grant proposals will be the following:

You may submit a request *in English or Spanish*, by e-mail, fax, or post. After you submit a proposal, a notice of receipt will be sent within 2 weeks of its arrival. We will accept proposals all year, and will award grants every 3 months. (The first round of applications will be reviewed in early September 2005, and those grants will subsequently be awarded starting in early October 2005.)

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Steering Committee of Kindred Spirits Foundation, we look forward to receiving your materials soon.

In Solidarity,

Daniel Lopez
Executive Director

Heather Lopez
Founder

GENERAL APPLICATION FORM – Kindred Spirits Foundation

INSTRUCTIONS: On a separate piece of paper, please briefly answer the following questions. Your completed application should not exceed 5 pages.

1. CONTACT INFORMATION:

- What is the name of your group/community?
- Please provide current contact information for the primary contact person for this grant application (mailing address, telephone, fax, e-mail, website).
- Please share with us the name(s) and title(s) (e.g., Director, Coordinator, etc.) of the leader(s) and all cooperating members of your group.
- What is your preferred method of communication with us? (Post, Fax, or E-mail)

2. GROUP / COMMUNITY INFORMATION:

- Please tell us what are some long-term goals of your group/community.
- Please describe a goal you have already achieved, and how you went about achieving it.

3. GRANT REQUEST INFORMATION:

- What is the total amount of money you are requesting? Indicate the currency.
- Is this the full amount needed to complete the project or will individuals from your group/community be making their own contributions?
- Please describe how you would use the money. (Include a tentative budget.)
- What is your projected timeline for completion?
- Will you be submitting any other requests for funding, and if so, from whom?
- If you have received funding from any other donors in the past, please provide us with their contact information.

4. PROBLEM DESCRIPTION

- Please tell us about the specific issues, problems, or needs your project addresses. (Which of the “target areas” will be your primary focus?)

PLEASE SUBMIT ANSWERS TO:

Kindred Spirits Foundation
C/o Grant Review Committee
P.O. Box 474
Empire, Colorado 80438 USA
Email: heather@earthlink.net (Please copy cndeayo@yahoo.com)
Fax: 01-303-569-3506