

Greetings!

This special mailing contains the independent requests for donations submitted for the approximate \$9,000 that we have to donate to this kind of project in 2002. As explained at the March general meeting and in the April newsletter, the bulk of calendar proceeds (about \$44,000) will be donated to Peace Corps Partnerships. You will have the opportunity to choose Peace Corps Partnerships programs to support at future general meetings.\*

There will be a meeting of anyone interested in evaluating the projects described here and making recommendations for funding after our "Third Thursday" gathering at the Harmony Bar on Atwood Avenue on April 18<sup>th</sup>. The social gathering is scheduled from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. We'll talk about projects after some hearty socializing. Time permitting, recommendations will be in the May newsletter, which should reach you before the May general meeting on Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at the Red Gym on the UW campus. Funds will be sent out as soon as possible after we vote.

Call Lee Row (232.9065 leerow@chorus.net), Walt Zelner (H: 873.5257; W 262.1321; e-mail: zeltner@engr.wisc.edu)

\*See the Peace Corps Web Page ([www.peacecorps.gov](http://www.peacecorps.gov)) to check out Peace Corps Partnership projects in advance.

### Project Summary

Nicaragua iguana & honey	Richland Center Sister City	Brad Hinkfuss	\$ 500
Nicaragua rope pumps	Richland Center Sister City	Brad Hinkfuss	500
Ukraine orphanage insulation	Ukrainian Energy Brigades	Tom Brown/Jo Ellen Seiser	Equal Share
Books for Morocco	Moroccan schools	Sophia Zermuehlen	300
Kazakhstan environmental camp	PCV/Borovoye School		2,433
Colombia microenterprise	RPCVs of South Florida	Prudence Barber	900
Books to PCVs	Darien Book Aid Plan, Inc.		1,000
Demining project in Mozambique	UNA-USA of Dane County	Prudence Barber	Equal Share
Assistance to Afghan refugees	Internat'l Rescue Committee	Ken Coffeen	500
Homeless women's self sufficiency	Montgomery Ave. Women	Jim Smith	Equal Share
Bulgarian boys' camp	TO BE/Peace Corps Bulgaria	Steve Elmore	1,000
Community gardens	Joining Forces for Families	Kristi Torres	Equal Share
Mildred Green memorial	Urban Open Space	Rose Ann Scott	500
Roundhouses for Afghans	Madison Community Foundation	Joe Elder	<u>4,000</u>
	<b>Total</b>		<b>\$11,633 and 4 Equal Share</b>

### THE PROJECTS

**Amount requested \$800**

#### **Nicaragua iguana & honey**

sponsored by Brad Hinkfuss

Richland Center Sister City Project

The people of the Chacocente communities have asked us to help them start some income-producing projects. (Turtle egg trafficking is now one of the only cash income possibilities in the villages.) Two projects they want to try are iguana raising and honey production, both of which seem appropriate for the dry tropical forest environment. We have budgeted \$800 for these two projects and are asking you for a matching grant of \$800 to cover the total expenses.

The costs in iguana raising include materials for building an enclosure and nesting setup, breeding stock, feed and medication, transportation of materials, and some training. Part of this plan is to release some iguanas to the wild. Iguanas are native to the Chacocente refuge, but have become quite scarce through hunting.

As for honey production, we plan first to send two people from Chacocente to learn the trade as apprentices. Beekeeping in Nicaragua is a serious proposition because of Africanized bees, which can be deadly if mishandled. Each colony would cost about \$60, plus equipment and protective clothing. The dry tropical forest has trees that flower year round and could produce lots of honey. Peter Smith, our representative in Nicaragua, will supervise these projects.

**Amount requested \$500**

**Nicaragua rope pumps**

sponsored by Brad Hinkfuss  
Richland Center Sister City Project

We ask for \$500 to improve five wells in rural La Poma (Santa Teresa Caraco) Nicaragua. Rope pumps and concrete well covers will be installed for each well. This would increase the quality and quantity of the village's water and make garden microirrigation possible.

Many health problems in this dry area stem from not drinking enough water or from drinking unclean water. La Poma is in the buffer zone of the Chacocente Wildlife Refuge dry tropical forest. This community has requested our help, but our budget is focused on the communities actually within the Refuge. We have installed the pumps in three of the Chacocente communities in combination with raised tanks for microirrigation of community gardens/nurseries. Our representative in Nicaragua, Peter Smith, will work with the people in La Poma to do the improvements.

**Amount requested Equal share**

**Ukraine orphanage insulation**

sponsored by Tom Brown & Jo Ellen Seiser  
Ukrainian Energy Brigades

The community of Rivne, Ukraine, has requested assistance in the insulation of three orphanages in their region, housing over 500 orphans between the ages of 2 and 17, as well as 150 staff members. The current conditions in the orphanages are unbearable due to cold temperatures and drafts caused by inadequate insulation.

The insulation project will be coordinated by Ecoclub, a member of the International Energy Brigades of the Ukraine. This organization is a non-profit community-based initiative designed as a practical response to the increasing incidence of "fuel poverty" in countries experiencing economic transition. The goal of Ecoclub is to help insulate housing of low-income families, orphans, the elderly, and children with disabilities, as well as to provide a campaign to raise public awareness of energy efficiency and conservation.

**Amount requested \$300**

**Books for Morocco**

**Sophia Zermuehlen**

I collect appropriate books in English and French and send them to teachers of English in Morocco, mostly to my "own" school where I taught from 1983 -85. I send the books in M-bags and pay for the postage. I then send the receipt to the RPCV treasurer who reimburses me.

**Amount requested \$2,432.60**

**Kazakhstan environmental Camp**

sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_  
PCV/Borovoye School

The ecologically minded Borovoye School has planned 3 sessions of a 7-da7 backpacking summer camp designed to introduce students to the rules of the recently established Borovoye National Park and to give them experience living in nature while making a minimal impact on their environment. The camp will take place in Borovoye National Park, in summer 2002, and will include 30 students aged 13-16 from Borovoye and Kokshetau, 2 local teachers, and 2 Peace Corps Volunteers. Along with hiking and learning the rules of the national park, students will participate in environmental and wilderness ethics lessons to demonstrate their impact on and responsibility to protect their natural environment.

The program is budgeted at \$3,502.60. Of this total, \$2,432.60 is requested and the participants, staff, and local schools will donate \$1,071.

**Amount requested \$900**  
**Colombia microenterprise**

sponsored by Prudence Barber  
**RPCVs of South Florida**

Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of South Florida established the Colombia Project (TCP) in 200 as a pilot project to demonstrate a method to provide transparent, direct assistance to people in need while strengthening effective grassroots organizations. TCP serves as a link to join donors to displaced families that have a viable plan but lack the resources to establish a small business.

Once TCP has successfully demonstrated the concept of delivering help directly to needy persons without creating a costly bureaucracy, it will be possible to seek additional assistance from corporate donors and major foundations and expand this project beyond Bogotá. In order to adequately demonstrate the principles of TCP, the goal is to support 30 projects by June 2002, then work with ADESCOP (grassroots organization of, by, and for displaced person) and U of Cundinamarca (Bogotá area) students to mentor those projects to successful completion. To date, TCP has supported 15 businesses and one education project. For each successfully completed (repaid) project, the local, mentoring organization (ADESCOP) will receive \$100 (or 50% of the repaid funds). Remaining funds will help pay TCP expenses. With this innovative, "results-oriented" structure, the bureaucracies prosper only after we have successfully helped the people in need. We are requesting aid for 3 specific projects that are posted on the web site [www.colombiaproject.org](http://www.colombiaproject.org) on the PROJECTS screen:

- 1) #113 Meneses – door to door sales of popular items; loan to be repaid in 3 months: \$315
- 2) #105 Calvo – 8 women will make and sell foundation garments: \$276.80
- 3) #124 Alvarez – sale of roasted meats; loan to be repaid in 24 months: \$314.99

**Amount requested: \$1,000**  
**Books to PCVs**

sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_  
**Darien Book Aid Plan, Inc.**

Darien Book Aid Plan, Inc. has been sending books to those in need for 53 years. Approximately two thirds of our shipments go to Peace Corps Volunteers all over the world. Our organization is funded by private donations. We receive no government funding.

This year has been particularly difficult in that our normal fund raising letter has brought in only a little more than half last year's donations. On top of this, the international postal rates were increased by more than 25%. In order to continue sending books to Peace Corps Volunteers, we have been forced to cut back the amount we send from two or three boxes to one smaller box. We are backlogged with orders from October and November. Darien Book Aid Plan is requesting a grant to be used solely for postage so that we can fill the orders and send them in a more timely manner.

**Amount requested: Equal share**  
**De-mining project in Mozambique**

sponsored by Prudence Barber  
**UNA-USA of Dane County**

The United Nations Association of the USA, (UNA-USA), of Dane County, has undertaken to fund removal of land-mines and unexploded ordinance from a minefield in Ressano Garcia, Tomo, Maputo, Mozambique, through the Adopt-a-Minefield program of UNA-USA. This area is a subsection of a large minefield in Ressano Garcia, which includes a graveyard, a dip tank (used for treating cattle with chemicals to ward off lice and other insects) with an access road, and a large agricultural area. This particular section was a former military position. Clearing this section will help restore access to roads leading to fields and forests in the area as well as enable people to reach agricultural areas and the graveyard safely. Consider this Dane County's piece of the war on terror against the terror of being blown up in the world's 7th poorest country.

**Amount requested: \$500**  
**Assistance to Afghan refugees**

sponsored by Ken Coffeen  
**International Rescue Committee**

This donation is to provide immediate basic assistance to people displaced by fighting in Afghanistan. The assistance includes food and basic health care. The amount of donations to Afghanistan is so far less than the amount needed. This would be a token donation only as an indication of our concern for helping people in the war-ravaged land to get a new start.

**Amount requested: Equal share**  
**Homeless women's self-sufficiency**

sponsored by Jim Smith  
**Montgomery Avenue Women's Center**

This nonprofit homeless women's day center helps 180 different women a year toward self-sufficiency. Services include case management, psychiatric care, life skills, food, and transport tokens. Homeless women are part of a strategic planning process. Formerly homeless women are employed as "house managers." We have a long-range plan to move into a more dignified facility (one with ready access to bath facilities and more centrally located.) HUD grant covers most services; they need help with operation expenses. I've served on the all-volunteer board for four years with several truly motivated people.

**Amount requested: \$1,000**  
**Bulgarian boys' camp**

sponsored by Steve Elmore  
**Teaching Our Boys to Excel (TO BE)**

The project that we are seeking funds for is a one-week camp for boys- Teaching Our Boys to Excel (TO BE) - to be held in Balchik, Bulgaria. This project is modeled after the very successful Camp GLOW (Girls Leading Our World) for young women and Boy's State, which is a young men's leadership camp in the United States. Camp TO BE will occur July 10-17, 2002.

Camp TO BE will benefit 40 boys through a week of educational sessions on drug and alcohol abuse, non-violent problem solving, HIV/AIDS and safer sex, media images, sex roles, debating, play cooperative sports and team-building games, participate in community service activities, have a civic responsibility day, and invite role models as guest speakers. The overall goal of the camp teach young men to excel as responsible and cooperative leaders for fuller participation in their society. Camp TO BE will also develop strong English-language skills for camp participants.

Forty young men from 8th until 12th grade will be selected based on an essay contest and recommendations from their teachers and/or community leaders reflecting their leadership skills. Boys will be selected from communities from throughout Bulgaria based on merit, regardless of ethnic, economic, or social background. Young men will be expected to pay 45 Bulgarian leva (about 22 USD) for the camp to help offset camp costs. Outside scholarships will be available to young men who cannot afford the 45 leva fee.

**Amount requested: Equal share**  
**Southdale community garden project**

sponsored by Kristi Torres  
**Joining Forces for Families**

Southdale Community Garden Project, in its 3<sup>rd</sup> year of operation, was initiated by a VISTA volunteer and interested community members of a culturally diverse, low-income, working class Southside Madison neighborhood. The neighborhood is composed of approx. 530 apartments, home to 2,500 residents. The 20 ft. x 70 ft. plot is on land where an apartment complex burned down, with potential space for expansion depending on funding assistance for the purchase of top soil and interest of the Southdale residents. This year the garden will be cultivated/harvested by an estimated 20 children (ages 4 -18) and 10-15 adults. The project will be organized/monitored this year by 6 UW-Madison student volunteers currently involved in neighborhood projects. They intend to incorporate an educational component in the children's section of the garden, and technical support and resources to the adult portion. Donations have been promised from Seed Savers, Kleins Floral, Jung's, and CAC for seeds/plants, and we will obtain mulch/compost from the city parks system. The project needs hoses, various tools for cultivation, supplies for the children's educational projects and food/utensils for bi-weekly garden meetings. A 4 ft. chain link fence was donated last year, rental of a posthole digger/related materials are needed to install it. This project brings together a diverse group of people, in both ages and cultures, while assisting gardeners to produce their own food, as they share and learn new gardening skills from each other.

**Amount requested: \$500**  
**Mildred Green Gardens memorial**

sponsored by Rose Ann Scott  
**Urban Open Space Foundation**

This donation will be put in a trust for the garden plots that is at the family home on 2975 Rimrock Road. Mildred helped create the first dedicated community garden in Wisconsin. She's the mother of Meredith Green a past president and long standing member of our group. Many times our group met at the family home and fondly called it 'club house'.

**Amount requested: \$4,000**  
**Roundhouses for Afghans**

sponsored by Joe Elder  
**Madison Community Foundation**

This project is an effort to quickly and efficiently meet the pressing housing needs of Afghan families, devastated by years of war and drought. A Roundhouse is a circular one-room wooden home 16 feet in diameter designed to sleep 8 persons comfortably. They have been used in seven countries for disaster relief. They are shipped unassembled, but can be assembled by three people using hand tools in five hours. They are engineered to withstand harsh environmental conditions. They can be made into permanent housing, or disassembled and moved as families relocate. Each Roundhouse costs \$2000, including shipping. The amount requested (\$4000) would provide 2 Roundhouses. The overall goal is to raise \$50,000 to send a crate of 25 Roundhouses to Afghanistan by early fall 2002.

**Amount requested: \$1,000**  
**Support for RPCVs of WI—Madison**

sponsored by Walt Zeltner

This proposal is submitted simply to remind the group that we use proceeds from the sale of the International Calendar for internal purposes as well as external donations. I suggest setting aside \$1,000 for our internal use for the next year. The primary use would be to pay the setup costs for the Freeze for Food, which currently run \$700-750. This would leave \$250-300 for other purposes if needed. Remember that our President has discretionary power to authorize donations of \$100 for individual purposes without needing the consent of the group. This additional money would be available for such emergency situations.

# **SPECIAL MAILING**

## **Calendar Donation Requests For 2002**

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**Returned Peace Corps Volunteers  
of Wisconsin – Madison**  
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