This mailing provides our members with information concerning the requests for donations that have been submitted for the 2000 Giftaway. An application form for requesting small donations was published in the newsletter you received at the end of February. The Project Descriptions of the requests that were received by the end of the group meeting held on April 4 are enclosed. (If you have questions about the terms employed, check the full application form attached to the newsletter you received at the end of February for further information.)

The next step in the process is for several people to meet, discuss the applications, and recommend amounts of funding for each project application. This meeting will occur at 7:00 PM on Monday, April 17 at Buck Trawicky and Sharon Lewandowski’s place, 2330 Willard, 2nd Floor (241-2392). Anyone interested in this process is invited to participate. The more people who attend, the more legitimacy the recommendations will have. The recommendations of this committee will be published in the next newsletter you receive (which is why we have so little time to complete this process). Approval of these recommendations or any requested changes in them will occur at the May group meeting. We’ll send the money out as soon after that as we can.

Walt Zeltner [Home: 873-5257; Work: 262-1321 (can leave message); e-mail: zeltner@engr.wisc.edu]

PROJECT APPLICATION FORM

Application Date 11/22/99  
Amount Requested $300  

RPCV-WI/MAD. Sponsor  BUCK TRAWICKY/WALT ZELTNER  Telephone 241-2392

Project Title  BOOKS FOR AFRICA

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: (Fit text into box--about 100 words. Details on back)

Books For Africa is extraordinary; founded in 1988 to redress the book famine in Africa. I talked with Mr. Kowalczyk at the ’99 RPCV Conference. His full-time salary and the office overhead are paid by a Minn. foundation; all other work is done by volunteers (lots of them). They collect, sort, and pack jillions of donated books (4 million so far), and ship them to African schools (via an African network of trustworthy collaborators). All donations are used for shipping costs (shipping costs are 30 cents/book; $500 = 1500 books). Donations are e.$300,000 annually, so we’d be a modest drop in generous bucket.
The Madison Community Health Center has for over 25 years provided health care for those who cannot obtain it elsewhere. They have 2 family service clinics in Madison, one on the near east and one on the south side. Many of their clients do not speak English, with 39% speaking Spanish. The South Madison Clinic has become one of the primary places low income pregnant Hispanic women receive prenatal care. There is a ongoing need for the purchase of medical supplies and they are currently trying to purchase newer computers to run their software.

Christine Wilcynski, a Peace Corps Volunteer in Thailand, requests financial support for the completion of a new library at one of her schools. Funds will go for bookshelves, lights, fans, tables, chairs, and educational literature.

The small community of Caño Quebrado in Colon, Panama has a significant problem receiving potable water. A gravity fed PVC tubing system does exist to help fulfill some of their needs. Funds are requested by PCV Christina Dollhausen, now working in Caño Quebrado, to extend and improve the present system so that it serves all members of the community. The $750 will be used to buy the required materials. The community will provide all tools, required labor, and faucets for each home.
PROJECT APPLICATION FORM

Application Date 11/22/99  
Amount Requested $730

or  [ ] Check here = Equal Share

RPCV-WI/MAD. Sponsor BUCK TRAWICKY  
Telephone 241-2392

Project Title FRIENDS OF DOLPA, NEPAL TO SPONSOR 2 STUDENTS

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:  (Fit text into box—about 100 words. Details on back)

What a nice bunch!—focused, and with long-term vision. Dolpa is in far northwestern Nepal's Himalayan region; the people are traditional, stalwart, alert, and lovely; but it's a poor region. The Friends of Dolpa (501.c.3) work with projects in education and in cultural and environmental preservation; founded by an RPCV who spends most of her year in Dolpa. Main focus is the Tapriza School, for children of the primordial Bonpo religion; also the Dunai Boarding School; also some support to local groups in women's dev., health, environment, and cultural/religious preservation. They make a point of teaching management and relevant computer skills to the Nepali honchos. Tapriza School is co-sponsored by the locals (who are very involved, and run it superbly), the Nepal Gov't, a Swiss foundation, and FoD; it teaches in Tibetan, Nepali, English; it includes classes in traditional matters, some taught by local elders. A wonderful school: its curriculum makes me envious. Sponsorship costs $1/day/child: $365/yr, $730 for 2 years. (Sponsorship is spent for the whole class, not for an individual child, so donations can be of any amount.) Recordkeeping is impeccable, but let's not lay more reporting work on their shoulders: keep the (annual) donation to under $1000. They'll automatically send us their general reports.

PROJECT APPLICATION FORM

Application Date 11/22/99  
Amount Requested $950

or  [ ] Check here = Equal Share

RPCV-WI/MAD. Sponsor BUCK TRAWICKY  
Telephone 241-2392

Project Title SUPPORT FOR POOR STUDENTS VIA "EMPOWER NEPAL"

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:  (Fit text into box—about 100 words. Details on back)

Many poor Nepali children complete only a few grades of school, because their families can't afford the modest school fees. Our donation would pay the school fees for 1 year for a number of children, so they can attend their local middle schools (only $50/yr/child!). Empower Nepal wants to support the needy ones through to High School graduation. An obvious benefit to Nepal. Empower Nepal is a tax-exempt 501.c.3 corporation, founded by Nepalis in the Minneapolis area. They help set up and sponsor projects; these are in members' home areas, which they know well and visit regularly. They focus on projects in Education & Health, Environmental Stewardship, Economic Empowerment, and Civic Enlightenment. 30 of these Nepalis hosted 15 Nepal RPCVs at the '99 RPCV Conference, and we were very impressed by their competence and thoughtfulness; and Padam Sharma is an extraordinary though modest guy. Well-to-do Nepalis have no tradition of independent public service—clearly, these have been affected by their American experience. Empower Nepal began work in '96; all are volunteers, and there are almost no overhead expenses. Reporting will be as full as we want; we can even get letters from the students our money sponsors.
**PROJECT APPLICATION FORM**

**Application Date** 3-2-00  
Amount Requested $600.00  
—or  
Check here = Equal Share

RPCV-WI/MAD. Sponsor Judy Figi  
Telephone 608-754-0125

Project Title Harford School Rebuilding Project

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** (Fit text into box--about 100 words. Details on back)

Harford Secondary School in Moyamba, Sierra Leone, was once one of the best girls' schools in the country. Rebel warriors destroyed most of the contents of the school—books, office supplies and school records, clinic, beds, science equipment and the school library. The buildings were left standing. Harford Old Girls Association of Freetown has launched a campaign to reopen the school in Moyamba by Sept., 2000, the 100th anniversary of the school. This school is presently operating in a borrowed building in Freetown. This money would be used to help buy supplies (books, paper, writing materials) for the school. Sierra Leone signed a peace accord in July 1994 ending an 8-year war which has devastated this poverty-stricken country.

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**PROJECT APPLICATION FORM**

Application Date 11/22/99  
Amount Requested $500  
—or  
Check here = Equal Share

RPCV-WI/MAD. Sponsor Buck Trawicky  
Telephone 241-2392

Project Title Wisconsin Public Radio

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** (Fit text into box--about 100 words. Details on back)

Both WPR and WORT are part of what makes Madison, and Wisconsin, unique. (We gave money to WORT last May.) Both stations (also public radio WERN, to a far lesser degree), perform a valuable and unique service, providing thoughtful discussion of international topics—currently, on the WTO summit in Seattle. Among WPR's recurrent offerings, these are particularly good: the hourly news summaries; Jean Feraca's and Tom Clark's morning shows; occasional afternoon shows (and All Things Considered on WERN in the afternoon), and the BBC and Canadian Broadcasting material in the wee hours (on both WHA and WERN). Support from both state and federal government has plummeted in recent years (which is shameful), and public/community radio shouldn't be forced to rely heavily on corporate donations (which is very dangerous). It is in our interest as citizens and as RPCVs to help preserve what is clearly the best public radio system in the nation.
The Tibetan Children's Home (TCH), located in Dehra Dun, U.P., India, is a residential center and school for about 70 poor and needy Tibetan children-in-exile in India and neighboring countries. By providing the children with a stable residence, a nurturing environment, and well-educated staff, TCH gives them a proper education and a viable means to become self-supporting, while they maintain their own cultural heritage. Without TCH, educational opportunities are limited for these children, and their schooling is often interrupted when their parents travel to other parts of India to make a living as street vendors.

Of the amount requested for this project, $350 is the amount needed for a full one-year scholarship for one child at TCH. The remaining request is for contribution toward maintenance and the many needed improvements at TCH. We have donated to this project since 1997, and have received letters of appreciation and progress reports from children who benefitted from our contributions. We have also received status reports and letters of appreciation from Skip Kindy, Director of the TCH Fund in Madison.

FOCCUS (Friends of Chernobyl Centers, United States) is a support network for 10 community centers established in western Russia, Belarus, and the Ukraine that provide services to victims of the 1986 Chernobyl disaster. Center programs include education and recreation, medical and social work, psychological rehabilitation and counseling, community action and organization, and support services to the elderly.

The national headquarters of FOCCUS is located in Madison, chaired by Norma Berkowitz, who recently received an award in Washington for international relief work. The FOCCUS network is a project of the Institute of International Connections, a tax-exempt non-governmental organization. Our contribution to it is consistent with Peace Corps goals in that it helps to support the staff at the Centers who work each day to bring hope, community, comfort, and education to those displaced by the Chernobyl disaster. In addition to providing direct consultation, training, teaching materials, and moral support to the centers' staff, FOCCUS links the Centers with other American resources, and it engages in public education about the Chernobyl disaster to the American public and politicians. We have contributed to this project in recent years.
PROJECT APPLICATION FORM

Application Date  April 3, 2000  Amount Requested $950
or
☐ Check here = Equal Share

RPCV-WI/MAD. Sponsor  Sheila Pizzichick  Telephone  244-6454

Project Title  "VITAL CONNECTIONS" HEALING CONFERENCE IN MANAGUA, NICARAGUA

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: (Fit text into box--about 100 words. Details on back)

In 1999, in light of the devastation caused by Hurricane Mitch, WCCN's June delegation to Nicaragua focused on healing and recovery, and particularly the added burdens placed on women. Delegation participants included practitioners of a wide range of healing therapies. Training in stress alleviation, massage therapy, art therapy, Thought Field Therapy and other techniques were provided to one hundred women who traveled from throughout Nicaragua to attend the two-day conference held in Managua. The intent was for women to both be able to use the techniques themselves, and also be able to return to their home communities and share the techniques with others. The conference was co-sponsored by WCCN and Nicaragua's national Network of Women Against Violence.

Because of the successes of the 1999 conference and the desire of the Network of Women Against Violence to continue our collaboration on their work of "emotional reconstruction," we will repeat the conference format during the June 2000 delegation. The conference will be expanded to two and a half days, and WCCN will provide funding for 125 women to attend instead of one hundred. The costs associated with the conference are food for women attending, lodging for those traveling from outside of Managua to participate, location costs, translation services, and materials for distribution. As in 1999, WCCN will again be providing partial scholarships to practitioners presenting workshops. The budget of the conference will be $4000, with an additional $1000 being provided as partial tour scholarships.

PROJECT APPLICATION FORM

Application Date  January 12, 2000  Amount Requested $200
or
☐ Check here = Equal Share

RPCV-WI/MAD. Sponsor  Bruce Lainberger  Telephone (609) 846-5833

Project Title  Amphur Samngao Basketball Camp

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: (Fit text into box--about 100 words. Details on back)

Seven Peace Corps Volunteers in Thailand will hold a camp for 4 days instructing 60 Thai 5th-6th grade students and teachers in English, student-participatory learning (SPL), and basketball. Requested funds will go mostly for food and the rest for new equipment and maybe T-shirts.
PROJECT APPLICATION FORM

Application Date 4/4/00  Amount Requested $______

or  

RPCV-WI/MAD. Sponsor Rose Ann Scott  Telephone 241-0845

Project Title Goose Pond

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: (Fit text into box—about 100 words. Details on back)

The Madison Audubon Society has for several years been buying land around Goose Pond and restoring it to prairie. It would be a good environmental use of our money to secure some land that will be a short distance north of Madison (near Mike Reed) for all the creatures of the earth.

PROJECT APPLICATION FORM

Application Date 4/4/00  Amount Requested $______

or  

RPCV-WI/MAD. Sponsor Rose Ann Scott  Telephone 241-0845

Project Title TRICKLE UP

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: (Fit text into box—about 100 words. Details on back)

Trickle Up is a group that matches the RPCV’s development goals. It provides small amounts of capital for individuals to start a small business. It works in all the Peace Corps countries, and several Peace Corps Volunteers have provided start up money to individuals from Trickle Up.

PROJECT APPLICATION FORM

Application Date 4/4/00  Amount Requested $______

or  

RPCV-WI/MAD. Sponsor Rose Ann Scott  Telephone 241-0845

Project Title Mashal

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: (Fit text into box—about 100 words. Details on back)

Mashal is a Pakistani group of people who help disadvantaged people. For the the handicapped, Mashal secures medical services, medicines, applicances, donated surgeries, physical therapy, etc. For young women they provide classes in various skills that can provide them with income. They are also active in obtaining books for libraries.
PROJECT APPLICATION FORM

Application Date MARCH 30, 2000 Amount Requested $ EQUAL SHARE
or
☐ Check here = Equal Share
RPCV-WI/MAD. Sponsor TERRY D. STARK Telephone (608) 233-9140
Project Title WORT-FM COMMUNITY-SPONSORED RADIO

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: (Fit text into box—about 100 words. Details on back)

WORT-FM is a non-profit, community-sponsored radio station staffed overwhelmingly by volunteers. It helps inform and educate its listeners about important local events. It promotes democratic participation in our system of government by informing the public of local political elections and interviewing candidates running for election.

WORT-FM also informs the local community about world issues through programs like "THIRD WORLD VIEW" and talk programs like "A PUBLIC AFFAIR." It promotes cultural diversity with programs like "LOS MADRUGADORES," "HMONG RADIO" the "DUSTY STORM" and others. It provides a generous amount of international music programming, too. In these ways, I believe WORT-FM and Peace Corps share many of the same values.

PROJECT APPLICATION FORM

Application Date 4/4/100 Amount Requested $ 
or
☐ Check here = Equal Share
RPCV-WI/MAD. Sponsor Rose Ann Scott Telephone 241-6845
Project Title Muraviovka Park

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: (Fit text into box—about 100 words. Details on back)

Muraviovka Park, located in Far Easter Russia along the Amur River, is the first privately operated Nature Park in Russia since 1917. This 13,000-acre wetland, with adjacent croplands, provides excellent habitat for more than 200 species of birds. The park serves as a test plot for new strategies of ecosystem conservation and sustainable development that will benefit both people and wildlife.

Since 1993, when the park was established, numbers of endangered Red-crowned, Whitedapped and Hooded Cranes and Oriental White Storks have increased three-fold. Hundreds of local children and teachers have participated in summer camps and become strong allies of the park.

The contributions will ... Give Russian children the opportunity to attend summer camp Hire summer interns from local orphanages Purchase educational materials and equipment for the education center Plant lure crops to keep cranes protected in the safety of the park.
PROJECT APPLICATION FORM

Application Date MARCH 11, 2000 Amount Requested $ Equal share or Check here = Equal Share

RPCV-WI/MAD. Sponsor TERRY D. STARK Telephone (608) 233-9140

Project Title WOLF WATERSHED EDUCATION PROJECT

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: (Fit text into box—about 100 words. Details on back)

The WOLF WATERSHED EDUCATION PROJECT (WWEP) is a grassroots educational organization formed by volunteers who investigate and disseminate information that helps people evaluate the potential impact of metallic sulfide mining in Wisconsin, in particular with regard to the proposed Crandon mine. They do research on the record of mining companies and the impact their mines have had in other areas.

Currently, the WWEP is coordinating a statewide speaking tour to involve students and youth. Speakers are available to talk with grade school, middle school, high school and college audiences, and to off-campus youth groups. The goals are to inform young people about the potential impact of mining to their future and to encourage them to get involved. This organizing effort will culminate in a Students/Youth Rally on April 29 at the State Capitol at 1 p.m.

The WWEP is an educational group. It does no lobbying and does not endorse any political candidates.

PROJECT APPLICATION FORM

Application Date April 4, 2000 Amount Requested $ or Check here = Equal Share

RPCV-WI/MAD. Sponsor Peter Joyce Telephone 249-8573

Project Title Scholarships for Cantel Guatemala

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: (Fit text into box—about 100 words. Details on back)

In the heart of Cantel, a municipality of Quetzaltenango, Guatemala, there is a bilingual high school called Colegio Maya. Cantel is a very proud Quiche-Mayan town, and is doing its best in the post-civil war era to educate its youth. Cantel was hard hit for many of 36 years of civil war. They have a new scholarship program for reading and writing, elementary, high school and university for both adults and youths from the town. 60% of the scholarship recipients are women and girls, 40% men and boys. All scholarship recipients have to be bilingual, from Cantel, have good grades, and good recommendations. As in most of Guatemala, there are too many kids deserving of an education that do not receive it for lack of money. The town in 1996 elected one of the two Mayan congress-woman, Manuela Alvarado, who came to Madison and asked for help for this scholarship program.
In the aftermath of the bombing of the US Embassy in Nairobi in 1998, we donated $600 through Friends of Kenya to use in treating victims of the bombing. Friends of Kenya directed those funds to the Oasis Counseling Centre. This organization is attempting to provide trauma counselors to meet the needs of the nearly 20,000 people who were directly involved in the bombing. They also conduct support groups, provide follow-up counseling for individuals who display symptoms of Post Traumatic Stress, and actively focus on helping children adjust to the situation. As time passes, sources of funds for this purpose are drying up. Unfortunately, significant needs still exist. I am requesting an additional donation to this group, again to be directed through the Friends of Kenya.

Number of requests = 20; Total amount requested = $7,840 + 8 Equal Share