In August 1996, we spent a Saturday holding a group Retreat. During the afternoon, discussion turned to our International Calendar, and a number of concerns were voiced. Many of these concerns involved a lack of feedback on how the money that we raised with the calendar was being donated and used. One response to these concerns has already been implemented in the newsletter, as we now publish information that we receive from the various projects to which we donate.

This mailing is an additional effort to provide you with more information concerning our donations. An application form for requesting small donations was published in the last newsletter. The Project Descriptions of the requests that were received by the end of the group meeting held on April 7 are enclosed for everyone to read. (If you have questions about the terms employed, check the full application form attached to your last newsletter for further information.)

The next step in the process is for a group of people to meet, discuss the applications, and recommend amounts of funding for each project application. This meeting will occur at 7:00 PM on Thursday, April 17 at Gordon Malaise's house, 1447 Spaight St. Anyone interested in this process is invited to participate. If you plan on coming, please let me know. 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)

Application Date  March 26, 1997  Amount Requested $  

RPCV-WI/MAD. Sponsor  TERRY D. STARK  Check here = Equal Share

Telephone  233-9140

Project Title  WORT RADIO

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

The work done by WORT is very consistent with the goals of the International Calendar and Peace Corps. WORT helps educate and "bring the world home" to people through news programs like THIRD WORLD VIEW, HMONG RADIO, BBC, and through TALK PROGRAMS on issues in countries around the world. WORT also helps educate by sponsoring SPEAKERS, such as Cecilia Rodriguez, who speaks on the Zapatista movement in Mexico.

WORT promotes diversity and cross-culturalism through much of its music programming such as WORLD MUSIC, ON THE HORIZON, TROPICAL RHYTHMS, LOS MADRUGADORES, LA JUNTA, and others.

WORT also promotes awareness and involvement by people in issues important to them, through news programming such as IN OUR BACKYARD, A PUBLIC AFFAIR, etc., and through the ACCESS HOUR (which allowed the RPCV of Wi-Madison to carry out a program on 2/17/97 telling people about Peace Corps and the Peace Corps experience).
Application Date April 7, 1997  Amount Requested $200 or
☐ Check here = Equal Share

RPCV-WI/MAD. Sponsor Lori MERRIAM Telephone 257-2271

Project Title PROJECT OUR PETS

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

**PROJECT OUR PETS**

Our PETS is a grass-roots organization of animal lovers and outdoor enthusiasts who believe that individuals working together can make a difference in their community.

The organization was formed after a Brittany Spaniel, Zack, followed his nose out of the park and ran into a trap just outside Tower Dale Dog Park. He remained in the trap for 3 days and lost 2 toes and seriously damaged his feet in his attempts to chew himself free.

PoP's goal is to raise enough money to secure fence the entire park. That means 10,000 feet of fencing at $1 per foot, or $10,000. Dane County Parks have agreed to provide $1,000 towards the project, as well as labor for installation. Money is being raised through a variety of fund raisers and individual donations. Recognition will be given to contributors of $500 or more. (Similar to that of our brick at the Goshen Aviary Sanctuary)

Application Date April 7, 1997  Amount Requested $200 or
☐ Check here = Equal Share

RPCV-WI/MAD. Sponsor Len MUNN—- Telephone 257-2271

Project Title MULTICULTURAL 6th Grant

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

In the past, the RPCV group has generously supported the Jefferson middle school art budget to assist in purchasing supplies necessary for our multicultural curriculum. Specifically, we use this money for bamboo structure used in the 7th grade construction project, and for supplies that students use to create drums.

While our PTO is most generous in computer purchasing and durable supplies and tools, the expense of supplies and labor do strain the regular budget. We are particularly interested in strengthening our curriculum. Funds available in light of a new principal coming on board and uncertain funding next year + 4 years to come.

Application Date 4/6/97  Amount Requested $200 or
☐ Check here = Equal Share

RPCV-WI/MAD. Sponsor WALT ZEITNER Telephone 873-5257

Project Title HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF DANE COUNTY - ERC CIRCLE PROJECT

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

The goal of Habitat for Humanity is to provide affordable housing for all people. Since 1987, the Dane County affiliate has built or rehabilitated single family houses for 14 families. Because of early land costs and property taxes, HHP of Dane County changed their approach. Now they are attempting to purchase and rehabilitate 31 units in 8 buildings in the Eric Circle area. These units will be sold for $35,000 each to local families who must provide a $500 down payment and 300 hours of labor on the renovation. As of Dec. 1996, over $500,000 of the $1.1 million cost has been raised to purchase properties, 6 units were renovated, and 4 others were being worked on. Our donation would contribute to the momentum generated by this project, which promises to help turn around a formerly troubled neighborhood.
Application Date  April 3, 1997  Amount Requested  $_____  

or  

Check here = Equal Share  

RPCV-WI/MAD. Sponsor  Rudeous Barber  Telephone  251-0852  

Project Title  

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

Against all the great odds in Central America, families in Madrinas, Sister City of Arcata, in El Salvador are struggling to create a decent life. In their former war-torn zone, their own volunteers provide health care, schooling, physical therapy, agricultural production, etc. to try to sustain the community. Receiving only small stipends to help put food on their own tables, women need childcare in order to participate. Church funding for this has run out, so we want to continue helping so women can work and continue seeking remunerative production that could help sustain the community's services.

Application Date  4/2/97  Amount Requested  $500  

or  

Check here = Equal Share  

RPCV-WI/MAD. Sponsor  Deb Stapleton  Telephone  244-8609  

Project Title  Atwood Recreation Opportunities (ARO)  

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

Atwood Recreation Opportunities (ARO) is a community-based recreation program for adults with developmental disabilities and/or mental illness. ARO provides adults living in the community the opportunity to participate in sports programs throughout the year, including softball, volleyball and basketball, and in a setting that supports their individual's skill level. There are approximately 40 athletes and 10 volunteers in each sports program. ARO's goals include assisting participants to develop skills necessary for independent living in the community: ability to use public transportation, social skills and peer group development. Funds provided by the RPCVs of Wis-Madison would be used to secure gym space and softball diamonds, upgrade equipment, pay postage and other office expenses, and provide scholarships to those unable to pay the $8.00 program fee. ARO is currently coordinated through the Atwood Community Center.

Application Date  31 March 1997  Amount Requested  $500  

or  

Check here = Equal Share  

RPCV-WI/MAD. Sponsor  Brian Goedey  Telephone  244-5849  

Project Title  Indian Orphan English Project  

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

PEACE Inc. has been endeavoring to begin an English teaching project at Nidubrolu, Kuntur Dist. AP, India. This June three volunteers will be going over to begin to teach approximately 40 orphans English to give them a step up in their world. The $500 would be used for pictures and books to be retained at the orphanage for the use of the orphans while the volunteers are there and afterwards. It is hoped that we can have an ongoing volunteer program to keep the children progressing as much as possible in their use of English. We hope to have someone designated there during the year to continue with a modicum of English, followed each summer with as much immersion as possible in English during the summer volunteer stays. In our world today English would be such a boon for the orphans to assist them to get better jobs in the expanding Indian business market. We have seen orphans leave the orphanage to go on to secondary school and some of them do well. This will give them one more advantage.
Application Date 3-21-97  Amount Requested $600.00
or □ Check here = Equal Share
RPCV-WI/MAD. Sponsor Brent R. McNabb Telephone 835-7512
Project Title Mundo Da Crianca School

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

I served in the Peace Corps in the interior of the northeast of Brazil. One of my neighbors was a family of 12 living in a tiny 4 room house. Neither of the parents were able to read or write, but they made sure their children went to school. Now, their spirited middle daughter, Maurina, has founded a school in an urban working class neighborhood. In November of '95, I had the chance to visit Maurina (after 20 years) and see this amazing school. I was moved by the excitement for learning I encountered and by the focus on building the children's sense of self-worth - and all with such meager resources. The school is worthy of our support and so are the children who benefit from her passion to provide the best education possible for them. The school currently supports 30 needy students tuition-free. I propose that we support one student for a year (the cost is $600). The potential for this being an ongoing commitment from our group merits consideration.

Application Date April 9, 1997  Amount Requested $1250
or □ Check here = Equal Share
RPCV-WI/MAD. Sponsor Peter Joyce / Rose Ann Scott Telephone
Project Title Ostensibly to Spanish speaking mothers

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

The mission of the Madison Community Health Center (MCHC) is to promote and provide health care in a way that makes it more universal and obtainable for everyone. MCHC's goals are to 1) remove barriers to health care, 2) promote wellness through services, education, and advocacy, 3) provide advocacy especially for individuals who lack health care, and 4) respect each individual's right to and responsibility for their own health.

MCHC has two clinics in Madison - one on the east side and one on the south side. Since the South Madison clinic opened in late 1995, it has become one of the primary places where low-income, pregnant, Hispanic women obtain prenatal care. MCHC has provided a welcoming environment for Spanish-speakers and has recently hired a physician who is fluent in Spanish. However, the need for interpreter services and Spanish language educational materials for pregnant Hispanic women is great. In order to provide comprehensive prenatal care, including education regarding nutrition, childbirth preparation, and assistance with social services, MCHC is requesting $1000.00 for interpreter services and Spanish language materials to be used in prenatal care for Hispanic women. (It should be noted that interpreter services are not paid by Medical Assistance or any third-party payer. Also, most Hispanic patients are uninsured). In addition, we are requesting $350.00 to pilot a 6 session childbirth preparation class in Spanish. This money will pay for the cost of instructors and class materials.

Application Date 4/8/97  Amount Requested $400
or □ Check here = Equal Share
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, Mahal 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.
Application Date  April 1, 1997  Amount Requested  $500.00

RPCV-WI/MAD. Sponsor  Gordon M. Malaise  Telephone  364-5774

Project Title  Wil-Mar Neighborhood Center Food Pantry

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

The Wil-Mar Neighborhood Center Food Pantry continues to fill an important need for many families in the Williamson-Marquette Neighborhood. Throughout 1996, 2,069 families (4,991 individuals) received in excess of 2,621 bags (approx. 20 lbs. per bag) of emergency food assistance from the Food Pantry. Although participants come to the Center for food, they also have an opportunity to receive educational information, as well as health and social programming, produce and clothing distribution, a Saturday Community Meal, and various events made available by facility use groups. While the need for food assistance continues to increase, funding available for this program is extremely limited. We are asking for your support on this ongoing project.

Application Date  April 2, 1997  Amount Requested  $500

RPCV-WI/MAD. Sponsor  Gordon Malaise  Telephone  255-3141

Project Title  The Learning Center- Preschool and Elementary Computer Curriculum

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

The Atwood Community Center provides preschool through middle school programs to more than 400 youth annually. An important part of the program is providing computer labs, classes and educational game time to the participants. Most of these youth do not have computers in their homes and are well behind their peers in use and understanding of computer technology. The Atwood Center now has six computers available to youth, but there is no standard program or curriculum and the software on the computers is slightly different. We have the opportunity to purchase an integrated software network that provides 27 different programs and 80 levels of difficulty making the software usable by all age levels. The cost includes software, setup, training of staff and teaching manuals.

Application Date  4/8/97  Amount Requested  $520

RPCV-WI/MAD. Sponsor  John Elder/Gordon Malaise  Telephone  238-3715

Project Title  Tibetan Children's Home

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

The Tibetan Children's Home (TCH), located in Dhondrupling Tibetan Colony, Clement Town, Dehra Dun, U.P., India, is a residential center and school for poor and needy Tibetan children-in-exile in India and neighboring countries. It provides them with a nurturing environment during their schooling, and a grounding in their own cultural heritage. 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. By providing the children with a stable residence and well-educated staff, TCH gives them a viable means to obtain a proper education and become self-supporting, contributing members of the Tibetan community-in-exile. Currently there are over 70 children enrolled at TCH.

Of the amount requested for this project, $350 would provide sponsorship of a full one-year scholarship for one child at TCH. The remaining request is for contribution toward the many needed improvements at TCH, including construction of new kitchen and dining facilities, library/study hall, solar heating system, and infirmary.
Chiapas, in far southern Mexico, is suffering from 2 huge problems: (1) There are many Maya refugees who've fled the army's genocide in Guatemala. (2) The local inhabitants, also indigenous, are under relentless economic attack by international corporate interests engaged in mining, clear cut lumbering, and agri business. NAFTA has made everything much worse.

This project helps with refugee resettlement, community development, humanitarian aid, and peace mediation. All funds are carefully used and accounted for. Supported last year (1996)

Your request could have been here.
PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Young Hostels are wonderful. They offer cheap safe bare-bones lodging for travelers, especially youths traveling under their own power. Europe has lots of them, and I loved them – the company of persons from many countries each night was especially pleasing.

Madison needs a hostel. We need young travelers here, from many countries, traveling on the cheap, close to the ground. Let's help this project get started!
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.

The Madison Audubon Society has for several years been buying land around Goose Pond and resotring 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 the all the creatures of the earth.

Number of requests = 18; Total amount requested = $5,950 + 6 Equal Share