ServeNebraska
Nebraska Volunteer Service Commission

2010 Global Youth Service Day Mini Grant Application

1. Contact Information

Contact Name: **Bruce/Marsha BonFleur**

Email: **aboutgroup@goldenwest.net** **Phone:** **308.862.4555**

Organization (legal applicant name): **the ABOUT group, Inc.**

Address: **P.O. Box 55, White Clay, NE 69365**

Youth Contact Person: **Gen BonFleur**

Age: **17** **Email:** **bonfleur2@hotmail.com**

2. Project Details

Organization Type: (Select all that apply)

X/ Faith-based X/ Non-profit ☐ Government ☐ Education

☐ Club ☐ Business ☐ Other: _____

Which pool of funding are you applying for:

X Disability Inclusion Youth Service ☐ Youth Service

Community Served: **White Clay, Nebraska (Sheridan County/Western Nebraska)**

Description of Youth Population (ages, demographics): **ages 12-18, residents of Sheridan County plus youth from bordering Pine Ridge Indian Reservation**

Expected Number of Volunteers: **90-150**

Number of Youth (age 5-25) anticipated out of expected volunteers: **45-60 (8-10 disabled)**

3. Please describe your Youth Service Day Project plan and how it is applicable to the "*YOUth Can*!" theme:

This project will compliment an already planned project recently funded by the Nebraska Attorney Generals office designed to involve both local communities, as well as, other Nebraska counties in a clean-up of White Clay, Nebraska. It is scheduled for April 22-25, 2010. The Youth Service Day Project can add positively to this scheduled event. White Clay is 'well-known' as a place that has been neglected for years. There is a tremendous need to do a physical clean-up of the unincorporated community which encompasses roughly 50 acres. This project represents a unique opportunity to bring together a diverse group of youth (white, native, disabled, middle-class and poverty-level) to demonstrate that good things can happen when people choose to come together –

break down historical/racial barriers, etc. – and serve as role models to not only other youth, but to their parents/adults also. We believe the YOUth Can! theme will be realized in every aspect should this be funded. Other groups/organizations already being recruited include Keep Nebraska/Keep America Beautiful, Boys/Girls Club of Pine Ridge, area schools, churches and other interested parties.

4. Project Location (Complete Address): town of White Clay, Nebraska. Project headquartered at 113 Main Street and Green Tipi Gardens, the ABOUT group.

5. Does your project include a Service-Learning approach: X/ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please describe: Students will be asked to write a personal growth statement after their participation in the project. They will also answer a survey which will help document both positive (and any negative/difficult) experiences they had while serving. Some middle/high school teachers will offer 'extra credit' to participants as well.

6. If your project includes youth with disabilities or focuses on serving those with disabilities, describe how: We checked the Disability Inclusion box in this application because we know of several disabled students who attend Sheridan County schools – and – schools on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation who rarely, if ever, have an invitation or opportunity to participate in such an event with their peers. We hope this experience will help to show them that they have a vital and important role in the future of a free and fully-functional society.

7. Does your project plan to engage youth not normally asked to serve: X/ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please explain: explained above, but there will be an active effort to involve disabled youth through contacts with a variety of community sources/agencies and schools.

8. How will your project meet the needs of your community: By demonstrating that a community/a location should never be considered 'hopeless' and beyond improvement. This project will do wonders to improve the image of a place in Nebraska that has received (and rightly so) more than its share of 'bad press'. This project will help begin to restore a positive of this forgotten community that needs to be once again considered part of "Nebraska… the Good Life."

9. Day(s) completing service: ☐ April 23 X/ April 24 ☐ April 25 ☐ Other: _____

10. How will you recruit volunteers for this project: Through direct contacts/announcements in area schools/related agencies/groups, and, by PSA/media articles/features.

11. How will you involve youth in leadership roles: They will have the opportunity to be involved in the pre-event planning and strategy meetings. Some will also be recruited to develop an

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"appreciation-type" event following the clean-up project aimed at the youth participants. This will probably be held in our 555 whiteclay facility and/or at our Green Tipi Gardens site. Most likely will involve: food/music and appropriate recognition(s) of youth.

12. How many youth are involved in the planning of this service project: A planning committee of 5-7 youth will be formed.

13. Is this project a collaboration with another service day: X/ Yes ☐ No
If yes, which one(s) and with whom: As previously mentioned - the Attorney General/ Keep Nebraska Beautiful event planned for April 22-25 in White Clay

14. What supplies or resources will be necessary to complete this project: Specifically for youth, Participant t-shirts, food, water, some promotional materials.

15. What is the plan for participant and volunteer transportation to the project location? Parents/adults will be recruited for the most part to transport youth to/from the event. Local church/school/agency vans and drivers also.

16. How will you track numbers of volunteers and volunteer service hours: the position of Volunteers Coordinator has been funded through the Attorney Generals grant. The primary role of this person is to recruit, track hours, assist in coordinating activities and recognizing youth and other volunteers.

17. What will the end result of your project be: A big step in improving the public image of the White Clay community, as well as, providing a 'common experience/positive memories' for all who participate.

18. How will you know your project was a success: Physical proof will be the cleanliness, order in the community, which has to date been non-existent. Also, we will rely on participant surveys gathered at the conclusion of the event(s) and feedback from area educators and others.

Budget Summary (Be as detailed as possible)

1. Please present the full budget for the project, highlighting other sources of funds.

Materials/ Supplies:

ITEM	REQUEST	OTHER FUNDS	SOURCE(S) OF OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL COST
Food	$200.	$2,000.	Attorney General Grant	$2,200.

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Sub-Total	$200.	$2,000.		$2,200.

Travel (mileage, food costs):

ITEM	REQUEST	OTHER FUNDS	SOURCE(S) OF OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL COST
Sub-Total				

Other:

ITEM	REQUEST	OTHER FUNDS	SOURCE(S) OF OTHER FUNDS	TOTAL COST
Participant T-shirts	$300.	$2,500.	Attorney Generals Grant	$2,500.
Multiple Items		5,500.	Attorney Generals Grant	5,000.
Other expenses		5,000.	Area agency/local business support & donations	5,000.
Sub-Total				

Total:	$500.	$15,000.		$15,500.

2. Budget Narrative: Please describe why the requested funds are necessary for the success of this project.

Until recently we did not have a "youth service" aspect/focus on this project. Frankly, after hearing of your project/purpose we believe this is a perfect opportunity to partner together and enhance the goals of all involved - youth, families, service-oriented agencies, schools, government and the general public.

Acquistion of these funds (the $500.) will serve as what we believe will be 'seed' money for involving youth. Your grant will encourage others to add to it and encourage this generation to become service-oriented in a time when so many youth appear to be 'me-oriented' and feel entitled to receive but not so much to give back.

Thank you so much for your time, your consideration and your commitment to help make Nebraska – and its youth – better!

Respectfully yours,

Bruce/Marsha BonFleur
Founders/Directors of the ABOUT group, a Nebraska not-for-profit

A Not-for-profit Nebraska Corporation
the ABOUT group
A Binding Of Us Together
555 whiteclay
GREEN TIPI GARDENS
LAKOTA CRAFTERS COOPERATIVE

March 2, 2010

Mr. Greg Donovan
c/o ServeNebraska
6th Floor/State Capitol Building
P.O. Box 98927
Lincoln, NE 68509-8927

Dear Mr. Donovan:

Greetings from White Clay!

Please find our mini-grant application for the upcoming YOUth Can! Global Youth Service Day in Nebraska.

Sounds like you've got a great program going - something I believe is much-needed in today's 'entitlement-oriented' generation. I wish you total success in all you are doing.

Don't hesitate to call on us if we can be of any assistance to you in this area.

Hope to hear from you soon.

Respectfully yours,

Bruce/Marsha BonFleur, Founders/Directors
the ABOUT group

cell at: 308.360.1253

enclosure

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