



THE FUNDING
EXCHANGE, INC.

Letter of Inquiry Sample

October 13, 2008

Mr. William Wishnik
Robert 1. Wishnik Foundation
375 Park Avenue Suite 3054
New York NY 10152

Dear Mr. Wishnik,

Thank you for the opportunity to inquire about potential support from the Wishnik Foundation. The Traditional School (TTS) is an educational organization located in Tekly, Alaska. TTS was formed to preserve elements of indigenous culture and create a dynamic learning environment to share the intricacies of lifeways in a sharing environment between elders and youth. The School has been in existence since 1997, and is governed by a Board of Directors and a group of Advisors. Chairperson Dr. Marion Healthway is a traditional healer of Navaho descent.

The Traditional School began as an outgrowth of Dr. Healthway's coursework in traditional medicine at the School of Traditional Medicine in California. Students approached her with a keen interest in a more intensive study of the integration of culture and medicine, and hence land was identified in Alaska to build the school. The land was purchased with contributions from the Board of Directors, students, and major donors.

The staff and board are Trustees of the parcel, and it has a conservation easement on it. The campus is located on a parcel of land in the Interior region of Alaska, is largely "off the grid", and has an outstanding organic garden that provides many of the traditional medicine ingredients used in the practice and curriculum. TSS is currently undergoing a program expansion, and we are seeking capital funds to build student housing for our educational programs.

TSS has a strong focus on environment and health. We would appreciate the opportunity to submit a full proposal for your consideration for your March 31 deadline.

We are seeking funds to purchase an energy efficient dome structure to act as a dormitory for students. Winters in Alaska are harsh, and preclude construction until April. We hope to raise the available funds in the second quarter of 2009, with the intent of beginning construction as soon as we have commitments for funding. The dormitory building will cost \$30,000, with all the labor and supplies donated by TSS or obtained through other in-kind contributions. We have received a \$5,000 contribution from a major donor to start the effort, and are seeking matching funds for the project.

TSS's educational programs in traditional medicine have received considerable interest since the organization was formed just four years ago. We have active partnerships with the University of Alaska Rural College Program, the elders in the local tribe, and other community based organizations.

We look forward to an invitation to submit a full proposal. Please do not hesitate to call the Traditional School at (907) 673-3955, or by email attss@alaska.net

Sincerely,