Funding Proposal

I. Equal Justice Center & UT Law School Transnational Worker Rights Clinic Proposal - provides employment rights assistance to workers who are not being paid for their work or who have been injured on the job in Central Texas.

The employment rights education programs for low-income community focus on the following:

- how to avoid non-payment of wages
- how to avoid workplace injuries
- how to exercise their legal remedies when they suffer from non-payment or workplace injuries

Costs:

- $92,000 - two years of salary and benefits for a bilingual junior staff attorney.
- $82,000 - two years of salary/benefits for experienced bilingual community advocate who would design and implement employment rights educational programs, conduct client counseling and assist staff attorneys/law students.
- General support funding for EJC’s low-income and worker rights initiatives.

Total: $174,000

II. La Fuente Learning Center

- Full-time Resource Coordinator and equipment to assist workers in learning how to access community resources offered by various organizations and governmental entities.

- Full-time certified teacher for the Plaza Comunitaria program (Spanish literacy partnership with the Mexican government (INEA) - adults enroll in this program to obtain their elementary or middle school certification. Because the high school GED is not recognized in Mexico this program is thought to be more useful for those in the community in need of lower-level elementary classes.

- Full-time Parent Counselor to teach parents how to discipline their children, why they should keep their children in school and how to raise their children so they will be productive members of the community.

Costs:

Resource Coordinator (20 hrs/wk x $15/hr x 47 wks) = $14,100
Plaza Comunitaria Teacher (10 hrs/wk x $15/hr x 47 wks) = $7,050
Counselor (20 hr/wk x $25/hr x 47 wks) = $23,500
Clerk/Translator (10 hrs/wk x $12/hr x 47 wks) = $ 6,204
2 – 3 Computers = $ 2,000
Bookcases and 1 file cabinet w/lock = $ 1,000
Resource Handouts (i.e., anger management booklet, goal setting) = $ 1,000
Supplies (general, computer, printer cartridges, etc.) = $ 1,440
Copier (with color capability) = $ 1,000
Telephone/Internet = $ 480
Building usage and maintenance = $ 9,464

Total: $ 67,238

III. El Buen Samaritano - serves 35,000 clients in the areas of education, outreach and health services to promote the successful participation of working poor Hispanics in our society.

- Trainer to deliver Leadership Training curriculum to educate the working poor Hispanic community. The training program provides the basis for implementation of outreach programs in the community. The Leadership training is an eight-module course that teaches working poor Hispanics to successfully engage in our culture and community. For example, it teaches responsibility for community, active listening, presentation skills and conflict resolution. It instructs them on how to use due process and communicate effectively. It also informs them on how to connect to other local resources in Austin. This Leadership Training is the core tool which trains our Promotores (Community Health Workers).

- The Promotores deliver presentations throughout the community to working poor Hispanics on topics like March of Dimes’ Comenzando Bien curriculum on prenatal care and health, the ADA’s, curriculum on diabetes, obesity prevention and glucose testing. They also teach nutritional information through the healthy cooking classes.

- Costs for one year:

  Trainer/Facilitator Compensation Package w/benefits: $46,000
  Promotores Stipends for training and service delivery $10,000
  Printing, Supplies and Materials: $10,000
  Travel: $ 1,000

  Total $ 67,000

IV. Freedom Writers – Freedom Writers uses innovated teaching methods to train teachers in order to improve academic performance of low-income students, including low-income immigrant students. Freedom Writers promotes acceptance and diversity within the classroom.
Costs:

Two annual payments of $33,500 which will provide six (6) deserving students a scholarship and train three teachers at the Freedom Writers Institute and provide three sets of books for three classrooms each year.

Total $67,000

TOTAL COSTS FOR ALL FOUR ENTITIES: $375,000