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*August 31, 2009*

Dear Sir/Madam:

On behalf of Raising Expectations Inc., a 501c3 youth arts enrichment organization (EIN: 20-3217575), I would like to kindly request up to \$10,000 in sponsorship or in-kind donation for our innovative “Green the Block” Environmental Mosaic Art Project in coordination with The Hip Hop Caucus Foundation and Green for All organization.

The purpose of this project is to engage young people in their communities by encouraging them to clean up their neighborhoods and designing mosaic design figures. These figures will remind the public about the effects of improperly disposing trash, educate the public on how to reduce waste, and encourage recycling and artistic beautification efforts in their communities.

Student mosaic art designs might include the following: 1) large light bulb figures (made of trash) to promote energy conservation; 2) fish figure to reduce water pollution and proper disposal of trash; 3) family holding hands to show how much trash created and need for reducing carbon footprint; 4) bull-dozer covering over trash/landfill about global warming; and/or 5) large tree figure to promote tree planting practices.

### **The Need**

- DPW removes approximately 128,000 tons of trash and more than 20,000 tons of recyclables from 110,000 single-family homes and small residential buildings (with more than three living units) each year – how do we motivate people to waste less and reduce carbon footprint?
- In 2007, DPW sifted through 16 tons of trash looking for gold, in the form of recyclables and found many missed opportunities to recycle (22% of items thrown away by residents with DPW collection service are recyclables accepted by the District’s recycling program – how do we motivate more people to recycle?)
  - More awareness about global warming and causes (air/water pollution)
  - More education about what is recyclable
  - More education about individuals can help to reduce, reuse, and recycle
  - More education on how to stop rodents with proper trash disposal

### **Project Overview**

In preparation for the 2009 International Day of Action to Stop Global Warming on October 24<sup>th</sup>, Raising Expectations Inc. proposes a fun, musical community advocacy and cleanup project that

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will engage youth to clean up and take pride in their communities by creating eight (8) large figures using re-used materials collected in their communities from their 8 different DC Wards.

For 3 Saturday mornings/afternoons in October, R.E. would organize young people to learn from environmentalist educators to develop signage that encourages others to stop global warming and re-use items that beautify their communities. They would be collecting trash as a team and leading by example with this mosaic reusing project. The youth would also be playing loud music while collecting trash for the 3 Saturday afternoons in October. On the third Saturday in October, a week before the International day celebration, the students will meet to begin designing their “Green the Block” Mosaic Design Figures.

R.E. volunteers would work with educators and DPW officials in each Ward and then, on October 24th, DC youth participants “Green the Block” Teams would come together to implement their mosaic masterpiece and present their solutions to reduce waste and help save the environment. The activity will conclude with a celebration afterwards with remarks from DCPR and DPW congratulating them on their activism.

### **Project Outcomes**

With your help, students will become knowledgeable on how to reduce their waste, how they can help keep their communities clean and green by starting litter removal and recycling campaigns. Students will also become empowered with green job training and will learn about how to keep DC government agencies (i.e. DDOT, DPW, DDOE, and others) accountable to properly dispose trash collected. Students will develop a sense of pride in their communities and a better understanding of their impact on the environment’s ecosystem. Lastly, youth will help to educate their families on how to reduce waste and hold government agencies accountable for safely disposing of trash in order to reduce global warming and ecosystem imbalances caused by trash and other pollutants along the Potomac River/Anacostia River watersheds.

A citywide competition with all the trash collected would be held on Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, between groups of Youth “Green the Block” Teams who have been educated about ways to save the environment. A total of 8 mosaic/collage figures would be created and students will decide on locations in their communities to display their artwork. At this event, we anticipate 80 youth participants and at least 200 parents, teachers, and community activists. We would gladly promote your organization as a Project Sponsor on our event fliers and on our website at [www.RaisingExpectationsDC.org](http://www.RaisingExpectationsDC.org).

Please consider a tax-deductible donation in support of this important environmental youth education project. Should you have any additional questions or be interested in exhibiting at our October 24<sup>th</sup> event or teaching an environmental education class, you can contact me at (202) 507-7882 or by e-mail at [AAnderson@RaisingExpectationsDC.org](mailto:AAnderson@RaisingExpectationsDC.org).

Thank you,



Abeo F. Anderson, MA/MBA, Founder/CEO

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**“Green the Block” Environmental Mosaic Art Project  
by Raising Expectations Inc.**

**PROJECT BUDGET & SUPPLIES NEEDED:**

**Tools**

Table Saws (\$40 * 8wards * 2 saws)	\$ 640.00
Hammers (\$6 * 8 wards * 2 hammers)	\$ 96.00
Copper Wire (\$15 for 100fteach * 8)	\$ 120.00
Gloves (110 pack)	\$ 15.00
24 bags * 8groups = 192 Plastic Bags (free from SWEEP, DPW)	\$ -
5 * 8 wards = 40 Rakes/brooms * 8groups = 200 rakes/brooms (free from SWEEP, DPW)	\$ -

<i>Subtotal</i>	\$ 871.00
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**Art Supplies**

Posters (\$3 * 8 wards * 5posters)	\$ 120.00
Markers (\$4 * 8 wards)	\$ 32.00
Glitter (\$6 * 8 wards * 3 sets)	\$ 144.00
<i>Grout (\$15 * 2jars * 8groups)</i>	\$ 240.00
<i>Paper Mache (\$15*2jars*8groups)</i>	\$ 240.00
Scissors (\$2 * 8wards *4scissors)	\$ 64.00
Stained Glass (free bottles)	\$ -
Bottles (free)	\$ -
Magazines (free)	\$ -
Newspapers (free)	\$ -
Plastics (free)	\$ -
<i>Subtotal</i>	\$ 840.00

**A/V Costs**

8 MJ Music CDs (blank rewritable CDs = \$10)	\$ 10.00
8 Portable Stereo Systems with Microphones (borrowed)	\$ -
<i>Subtotal</i>	\$ 10.00

**Marketing/Promotion Costs**

T-shirts for Green the Block Teams (10 t-shirts for 8 groups = 80 t-shirts * \$7each)	\$ 560.00
Green the Block Flyers	\$ 99.00
<i>Subtotal</i>	\$ 659.00

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**“Green the Block” Environmental Mosaic Art Project**  
**By Raising Expectations Inc.**  
*(Project Budget Page 2 of 2)*

**Food & Drinks (80 students & 200 for event)**

Water (\$2*2cases of 6 bottles * 8groups * 3 Saturdays)	\$ 48.00
Granola bars (\$3*8groups*3Saturdays = )	\$ 72.00
International Day of Action to Stop Global Warming Event	\$ 350.00
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>\$ 470.00</i>

**Personnel Costs**

Art Educators	
\$25 * 3 hours *4Saturdays * 8 groups	\$ 2,400.00
Art Environmentalists	
\$25 * 3 hours * 4Saturdays * 8 groups	\$ 2,400.00
R.E. Administration Fee	\$ 2,400.00
DJ (Event) - \$150	\$ 150.00
<i>Subtotal</i>	<hr/> <i>\$7,350.00</i>

**Total Cost** **\$10,101.00**

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