

COMMON GROUND

209 S. SWENSON STREET

STAMFORD, TEXAS 79553

February 12, 2013

Texas Rural Communities, Inc.
168 Cimarron Park Loop
Buda, Texas 78610

To Whom It May Concern:

COMMON GROUND is submitting an application for a recognition grant in the amount of \$5,000.00 to help with the cost of repairs for their bus, under the umbrella of Stamford Community Initiative, a 501 (c) 3, that serves as an avenue through which other non-profit organizations can use to apply for grants. Common Ground is a Non-Denominational Organization that was established to provide supervised guidance of the youth of the community in strengthening their faith, to provide youth activities, and to build good character and self-respect.

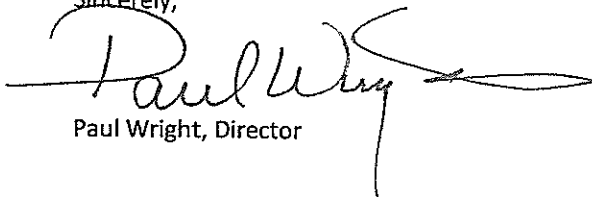
Common Ground has filled a void by providing something constructive for the youth, under proper supervision, to be able have a meeting place that provides recreation, character building, and leadership. It keeps the kids off of the streets and gives them a constructive way to spend their time.

Common Ground has a bus that is used to pick up and return to their homes young people that need transportation. They use the bus on Sundays, Wednesdays, and when they have events scheduled out of town. The bus is not working and the estimated cost of repairs is around \$6,000.00 to get it operating again.

When we learned of the possibility of being able to submit a proposal for a recognition grant of up to \$5,000.00 through the Texas Rural Communities, we thought that we had a good place to be able to use these funds. Common Ground has been a successful undertaking that has been in existence for more than fifteen years. Today, it is utilized by more than 300 youth in Stamford and the surrounding area.

Common Ground has put together a proposal in compliance with the guidelines that we have been given. We are grateful to be able to submit our proposal, and would appreciate your consideration for this endeavor. We think that Common Ground provides a worthy program. You can be assured that the funds will be used to help pay for the cost of repairs for the bus.

Sincerely,



Paul Wright, Director

PROGRAM FOR A \$5,000.00 RECOGNITION GRANT FOR COMMON GROUND

Section I: Contact information

- a. Paul Wright, 209 S. Swenson Street., Stamford, Texas 79553 Phone No. 325-773-3604
E-Mail cguthministries@yahoo.com
- b. Common Ground, 209 S. Swenson Street, Stamford, Texas 79553

Section II: Organizational Description

- a. Common Ground is a Non-Denominational Organization that was established to provide supervised guidance for the youth of the community in strengthening their faith, to provide youth activities, and to build good character and self-respect. The primary goal of Common Ground with its Director and with the guidance of the Board is to plan the activities to keep the youth involved with a positive plan of action.

Section III: Program Description

- a. The recognition grant of \$5,000.00 was identified as a way Common Ground to receive a portion of the funds needed for the repair of their bus that is used to pick up and return to their homes approximately 40 student that need transportation. The bus cannot be used again until the repairs are made.
- b. Common Ground is a Non-Denominational Organization that was conceived and set up by concerned citizens in the community for finding a place to provide supervised guidance to the youth of the community in strengthening their faith, to provide youth activities, and to build good character and self-respect. They have been successful over the last ten years in providing leadership for more than 300 teenagers from Stamford and surrounding areas in a Christian Environment in an organized program for growth and development.
- c. The support for Common Ground is from the various Churches in the community and the area, individual donations, and volunteers from throughout the area to help with leadership and guidance. The beneficiaries are the youth from Stamford and the surrounding area and encompasses all ethnic groups, ages 12 to 18, and all income levels. At the present time there are more than 300 actively participating in the program.
- d. Because of the tremendous impact this program has had over the years, being able to put the bus in service would be a great way to recognize the valuable achievement that has been made. Some of these being the young lives they have guided and influenced in order to prepare them for a good life, and to direct some of those that need guidance that they have not been able to receive in their homes. Other communities have requested information from Stamford in order to begin similar programs.
- e. The estimated cost of repairs for the bus is \$6,000.00 and a TRC Recognition Grant of \$5,000.00 would be helpful in being able to have the need funds to repair the bus. If you would not be able to fund this amount, we would accept a smaller grant.
- f. With the funds, we would be able to repair the bus and put it back into operation to provide a need for this worthwhile organization.
- g. Once the grant was received we would proceed to repair the bus. In the meantime, we are asking others to help with the additional money that would be needed.
- h. The organization has never received a grant from the Texas Rural Communities, Inc.