



Knox 4-H and Youth Committee

PO Box 22
Benjamin, Texas 79505
940-459-2651

November 14, 2014

Dear Sandra Tenorio:

Thank you for the opportunity to apply for grant funds from the Texas Rural Communities, Inc.

The Knox 4-H and Youth Committee is a committee that serves the Knox County 4-H Club. The Committee works with the local Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service office for Knox County. The mission of the organization is to serve as leaders, make decisions, and fundraise for the Knox County 4-H club.

The Knox County FCS Agent has identified a need for a Clothing & Textile project for the local 4-H Club. The Committee is requesting \$1100 to purchase sewing kits and extra sewing machines in order to provide the needed resources and equipment for the club to grow this project area.

The Clothing & Textile project will grow the skills of our youth for years to come. We hope you will consider our proposal for funding.

Sincerely,

Jimi Coplen
Committee Treasurer

Section I:

- a) Jimi Coplen, Treasurer, Knox 4-H and Youth Committee, PO BOX 26, Benjamin, TX 79505, 940-459-2651, kcvvg@srcaccess.net.
- b) Knox 4-H and Youth Committee, PO BOX 26, Benjamin, TX 79505

Section II:

- a) The Knox 4-H and Youth Committee is a committee that serves the Knox County 4-H Club. The Committee works with the local Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service office for Knox County. The mission of the organization is to serve as leaders, make decisions, and fundraise for the Knox County 4-H club. The Committee runs a successful pizza fundraiser each year. It organizes all aspects of the fundraiser. The Committee also runs a concession stand fundraiser during the livestock show each year. The Committee has been able to use these funds to send kids to camp, pay registration fees, buy products needed for various 4-H projects and more. Without the Committee, the group would not have funds to do anything. The Knox County Commissioner's Court helps fund the local Texas A&M Agrilife Extension office but that does not cover the 4-H Club expenses. That has to be done through fundraising activities

Section III:

- a) Our local County Extension Agent, Lorrie Coop, identified the Clothing & Textile Project as a needed program in Knox County. The 4-H club has kids that have expressed interest in competing in the new Clothing & Textile project called *Duds to Dazzle*. However, at this time the club does not have the needed resources to grow the Clothing & Textile's project.
- b) The Knox 4-H and Youth Committee is applying for grant funds to purchase three sewing kits (see attached list of items) for the 75-member 4-H Club. These kits will be used to compete in the new 4-H program, *Duds to Dazzle*. This is a competition where kids are given a variety of items and much create something from scratch. Items may be material, buttons, thread, paper sacks, etc. The kid will have to create something unique and/or repurposed. They are not given a pattern or told what to make. They have to use their creativity, and they are only allowed to use items provided in their "sewing kits". In order to compete in this new program, the club has to furnish their own kits. The Committee will use funds to purchase one kit for each age division: Junior, Intermediate and Senior. The Committee will also purchase two additional sewing machines to host summer camps for the Clothing & Textile projects. The goal of this program is to teach kids a variety of skills such as sewing, fashion, creativity, public speaking, working under pressure and teamwork. We will meet our goals by holding practices with the kids as well as entering them into the *Duds to Dazzle* competition.
- c) The program has the potential to serve our entire 4-H club for years to come. This year there are 75 kids enrolled in the 4-H club. These kits should last us for at least

5-7 years, bringing that total to 375-525 kids served. These kids will meet the 4-H club enrollment guidelines which is Kindergarten through Seniors in high school. Kids are not allowed to compete until they are in the third grade, but the younger ones are still allowed to practice.

- d) One of the things that makes the Knox County 4-H program unique is our enrollment and the vast number of projects our kids compete in. Knox County is small, but the county has two County Agents and a Commissioner's Court that believes in the program. Knox County is well-represented at all 4-H competitions. Since the *Duds to Dazzle* program is new, many counties will not be as aggressive as Knox or have the manpower to get this program off the ground. It may take some time for other counties to catch on. The group in Knox County is always willing to jump in and try new things. As other communities hear and see this group taking on a new program, they will gain interest. This club is also unique because it has excellent parental involvement. Parents have stepped up as leaders and are leading the charge in these programs. From fundraising to teaching, the leaders do a great job. Also, the 4-H Club has an excellent reporter who gets all the club news to the local newspaper. The paper does a great job of getting the articles published. All of these things combined will help us to communicate our success to other counties.
- e) A profit and loss statement is attached. The Committee would take less funds if the full amount is not available.
- f) The outcome of this program is for youth to learn about fibers and fabrics, wardrobe selection, clothing construction, comparison shopping, fashion interpretation, understanding of style and design, proper grooming, poise in front of others, and personal presentation skills. The Texas 4-H Duds to Dazzle Clothing & Textile Competition goes one step beyond, utilizing the knowledge and skills learned in the project, while increasing awareness of the impact of the clothing and textile industry on the environment, specifically the waste stream. In the competition, teams of 4-H members will redesign and repurpose discarded garments or textiles into new, viable consumer products all while staying on a budget and with available supplies. These outcomes will be measured by evaluating the skill set before and after the program. Texas A&M Agrilife Extension has a formal evaluation form specific to the project. It has been enclosed for your viewing.
- g) The *Duds to Dazzle* competition is held in the spring months. Since grant funds will not be available until March 31, 2015, the Committee will purchase this equipment in the summer of 2015. They will conduct summer camps to reach the maximum number of youth in preparation for the 2016 competition. Since the program is new, it will take some time to get the youth prepared. The expenditures for this program will be \$250 per sewing kit plus additional sewing machines for skill development and summer camps. The Committee needs three kits total plus two more additional sewing machines. **That will be a total amount of \$1100 in grant funds needed.**
- h) This group has never received a grant from TRC.



Knox 4-H and Youth Committee

PO Box 22
Benjamin, Texas 79505
940-459-2651

Board of Directors

President – Eric Earthman – 940-207-0489 – Physical Therapist for Knox County Hospital District

Treasurer – Jimi Coplen – 940-459-4121 – Knox County Visioning Group Director

Member – Kathryn Cude – 4-H Club President – Junior at Munday High School

Member – Trish Shaver – 940-256-3852 – Teacher’s Aide at Munday ISD

Member – Amanda Duke – 940-256-0424 – Nurse Practitioner Haskell Hospital

Member – Lianne Tidwell – 940-203-1448 – Teacher at Munday ISD

Member - Melissa Everson -940- 459-2231 – Teacher at Benjamin ISD

Sewing Kit

Each team will bring a sewing kit containing only one each of the following items, unless a different quantity is noted. A team can choose not to include a listed item, but no additional item can be added. A team may organize their kit by utilizing clear storage containers.

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| 1" foam paint brush (max. of 3) | 1" hook and eye closer |
| 3" x 5" or 4" x 6" note cards (1 pkg.) | 3-in-1 beading tool |
| Clear gridded ruler | Cutting mat (no larger than 24" x 36") |
| E-6000 glue adhesive | Elastic (1/2" and 1", 1 pkg. each) |
| Extension cord (two-prong) | Fabric markers (box of 10 or less) |
| Fabric marking pens/pencils (max. of 2) | Filled water bottle (max. of 16 oz.) |
| First aid kit (optional) | Gallon/quart storage bags (1 box each) |
| Hand sewing needles (assortment) | Hot glue gun & glue sticks (1 pkg.) |
| Iron | Manual pencil sharpener |
| Mod podge (max. of 16 oz.) | No-sew adhesive tape (max. of 10 yds.) |
| Paper towels (1 roll) | Pencils/pens (max. 5 each) |
| Pin cushion | Power strip |
| Rotary cutter (with blade cover) | Safety pins (1 pkg. assortment) |
| Seam ripper (max. 5) | Self-adhesive Velcro fastener (1 pkg.) |
| Sewing machine (standard, no serger) | Sewing machine kit: |
| Sewing machine manual | Sewing machine needles (variety) |
| Sew-on Velcro fastener (1 pkg.) | Bobbins |
| Shears/Scissors (max. of 5) | Presser feet (max. of 5) |
| Sketchbook | Tabletop ironing mat or board |
| Tape measure (max. 5) | Thimble (max. of 5) |
| Thread (max. of 12 spools) | Timer or stopwatch |
| Trash bags (1 box of 13-gal.) | |

November 14, 2014

Lorrie Coop
PO Box 22
Benjamin, TX 79505

Re: Texas Rural Communities Grant Application

Grant Committee Members:

Please accept this letter of support for the above mentioned grant application. I have been the County Extension Agent - Family and Consumer Sciences and 4-H in Knox County for over 10 years and have had the pleasure of working with the adult leaders of the Knox 4-H and Youth Committee in many project areas including 4-H Clothing and Textiles. In every instance I found their commitment and dedication to our youth to be of the highest caliber.

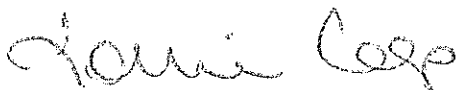
It is my understanding that the Knox 4-H and Youth Committee is requesting a grant for support equipment to help furnish sewing kits to supplement the Clothing and Textiles project, primarily the Duds to Dazzle project area. I support this request wholeheartedly. I think that being well-equipped with sewing supplies would serve to enhance the great work they are currently doing for our youth in this area.

Youth in the 4-H Clothing & Textile Project learn about fibers and fabrics, wardrobe selection, clothing construction, comparison shopping, fashion interpretation, understanding of style and design, proper grooming, poise in front of others, and personal presentation skills. The Texas 4-H Duds to Dazzle Clothing & Textile Competition goes one step beyond, utilizing the knowledge and skills learned in the project, while increasing awareness of the impact of the clothing and textile industry on the environment, specifically the waste stream. In the competition, teams of 4-H members will redesign and repurpose discarded garments or textiles into new, viable consumer products all while staying on a budget and with available supplies.

All support they can receive will be greatly appreciated as they continue their effort to provide the 4-H youth of Knox County with opportunities to learn critical thinking skills, presentation skills, teamwork and leadership through the 4-H Clothing and Textiles project.

If you need any further information regarding my experiences with the Knox 4-H and Youth Committee and support of their work please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully,



Lorrie Coop
CEA-FCS, Knox County



County of Knox

ROSIE AKE
County Treasurer

P.O. Box 212
Benjamin, TX 79505

940-459-2251
Fax: 940-459-2005
rosieake@srcaccess.net

To Whom It May Concern:

The Knox County 4-H Club is an active group that serves the entire county. The club is overseen by the Knox 4-H and Youth Committee. The club is designed to serve those in Kindergarten to Seniors in High School. The club meets monthly and works with young people teaching them a variety of skills such as public speaking, record book keeping, how to care for livestock, food and nutrition information, and much more.

Knox County does not contribute directly to the 4-H Club financially. The county only partially funds the County Extension Agents salaries and travel. The Knox 4-H and Youth Committee and the 4-H Club operate independent of the county.

I would recommend funding this organization. They teach our kids a wonderful set of skills they may not learn otherwise. The group is active and has done a great job getting lots of participation and growing enrollment.

Thank you!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rosie Ake".

Rosie Ake
Knox County Treasurer