

Section I

a. Contact:

Karin White, Director

Karin@netexas.net

200 West Fifth Street

Bonham, Texas 75418

903-640-2196

903-640-8148 (fax)

b. Organization:

Fannin Community Foundation (FCF)

200 West Fifth Street

Bonham, Texas 75418

TIN# 75-266987

Section II

a. Purpose of the Organization

Mission: “The Fannin Community Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to meeting the needs of the Fannin community and surrounding areas through exposure to the arts, as well as, educational and social programs”.

The Fannin Community Foundation (FCF) was originally formed in 1996, to administer the Family Life Center for the Methodist Church in Bonham, Texas. When the church wanted to close the Center the FCF board of directors, knowing that the needs of the county were great, decided to continue on with several of their programs. The goal of the organization is to assist the approximately 31,000 residents of Fannin County, and surrounding areas, through its unique programs.

As of the 2000 census the per capita income for the county was \$16,066. About 9.90% of families and 13.90% of the population were below the poverty line. These statistics demonstrate the extreme need in the county for the FCF’s main purpose, which is to bring some much needed light into the lives of the citizens, educate them and help to improve their self esteem. This is accomplished through the programs that the FCF operates.

The Creative Arts Center started with a donation of the building that houses it, by the Texoma Medical Center, on the condition that it would be used as an art center. The Center is an art gallery and teaching facility located in the heart of Bonham, Texas. The gallery displays works in various disciplines by local artists. There is always a steady flow of new works on display at the Center. An annual juried Adult Art Show and Youth Art Show is held to honor work done by local artists. Through the Creative Arts Center the FCF provides many educational programs for adults and children; art and drama programs, a photography club, workshops for computerized photo manipulation, computer program training for seniors, quilting, photography, bas relief sculpture, pottery, collage, jewelry design, and stained glass.

The Center’s building square footage is approximately 5,500 feet. The interior was remodeled after its donation into specialized areas to practice the various disciplines or for rental. Upon entry a visitor enters into the main gallery where special exhibitions are staged. One very popular rental is our Bridge Room. To the right of the main gallery there is a small gift shop that caters to the small pieces, especially jewelry, produced by our member artists. The gallery also rents out space for book and card clubs, weddings, parties, meetings of other local organizations and has an excellent catering service that provides food for all occasions.

Recently, ground was broken for a lovely new addition of a sculpture garden for everyone to

enjoy. The garden will feature a small stage, a water feature, a food serving area and various sitting areas. The addition of the garden is expected to provide space for larger parties which will increase gallery facility fees.

The Second Time Around Thrift store is a wonderful place to shop for a bargain, with everything from furniture, adult and children's clothing, dishes, books, videos, jewelry and even donated art works, available for sale. The store was originally established to make sure that the many low income families living in Bonham and surrounding areas had a place where they could find the things that they need at a greatly reduced cost.

Another concern of the FCF is that there are many children in Fannin County that go hungry in the summer, when school is not in session. They can no longer receive free breakfast and lunch at school. The KOOL Summer Lunch Program was developed to fill the gap between the summer break and the fall school session. The FCF brought the local churches together to provide the sites where the lunches could be picked up, a junior high school donated their cafeteria, where the lunches were prepared, and donations were secured to purchase the food needed to make the lunches. This year the program served 17,000 meals to the children.

Section III

a. Description of proposed programs

The Fannin community Foundation is seeking funding for two specific programs. One for disadvantaged youth and the second for adults who are out of work and seeking to enter the workplace with a skill that will earn them a livable wage. The programs are listed below; **Angels for Artists** – is a wonderful educational opportunity for the underprivileged youth of Fannin County. Currently the Creative Arts Center is partnering with local organizations such such as the Fannin County Children's Center, and Fannin County Head Start. These organizations are established programs that are dedicated to the identification of and assistance to those in need. As this program develops it is planned to open it to the schools located throughout Fannin County. Children, who come from drug and alcohol addicted, poor, neglectful or abusive home situations, are offered an opportunity to learn how they can be creative in various art situations. A scholarship to the art program can help these youth in the positive process of changing their lives for the better.

Young people who "want" to be artists – have the chance to fine-tune their artistic skills. Classes are held at the Creative Arts Center and are taught by professional artists from the Studio ARHouse in McKinney, Texas. The size of each class is 8-10 students. This allows for more concentrated instruction per student. Art brings out feelings in children that no other medium can accomplish. Children can express themselves in a safe and fun environment. While the children are having fun at their art classes, their parents can be taking another kind of class...

Computer Lab – The FCF has been holding computer software training classes for seniors. The 14 person classes are always filled. Interest in the computer training program brought about the development of a special new program.

Because of high unemployment and the fact that those that are working are not making enough to support a family, the FCF designed a new program that will take the computer classes a step further and provide training for adults/parents who are looking for work and don't have the skills necessary to get into the mainstream workplace. Students will come from Experience Works, the Head Start programs and other programs in the community that have identified those in need of this type of training and assistance. The program will take participants through a 5 step process; 1) assessment of the student's needs, by two instructors, 2)

instructors offer the needed computer training at no monetary cost to the students, 3) assistance with resume writing will be provided, 4) students will go to 2nd Time Around to receive an outfit so that they can look for work properly dressed, and 5) education on personal care and hair grooming techniques will be given.

Instruction will center on the basic use of hardware and software, Windows, Word, the World Wide Web and electronic mail. Given that participants will come with varying degrees of computer knowledge, the students will be interviewed prior to the beginning of classes to ascertain their actual needs, so that they will receive the proper instruction and what they learn will be beneficial to them.

The only requirement of the participant is that they give back by volunteering at the Creative Arts Center or The 2nd Time Around Store, for a minimum of 20 hours. Not only will the participants be giving back, they will also be demonstrating their capabilities. This will help if they need to secure letters of reference from the staff at the facilities.

The FCF is seeking funding for each of the programs to provide opportunities for adults and youth who do not have the required fees to allow them to attend and receive training.

b. Program participants –

Students for the Art Program will come from the Fannin County Children's Center, the Fannin County Head Start Program, area schools and the community at large.

Participants for the Computer Lab will come from the Fannin County Head Start Families Program and the Workforce Program and other such assistance programs as they are identified.

c. Budget – Angels For Artists Program

Revenue-

10 Students per each class (2) @ \$35 per month x 10 months \$7,000

Expenses-

Instructor fees \$3,000

Facility fee- to Creative Arts Center-\$5 per student \$1,000

Art supplies \$ 960

TOTAL EXPENSES \$4,960

Budget – Computer Lab

Revenue-

14 Students per class \$2,500

Expenses-

Instructors fees \$1,400

Supplies \$ 500

Facility fee- to Creative Arts Center \$ 600

TOTAL EXPENSES \$2,500

d. Deliverables

Art Program - Students learn useful artistic skills in a structured environment using highquality materials. The “Art Now!” course is designed for children from three to six years of age and focuses on the works of late Twentieth-Century artists, such as Jean-Michel Basquiel. They learn about the careers and techniques of these artists and practice the methods used in their works. Children aged seven to twelve study Principles of Design. The works of David Hockney, among other artists, are examined. Both classes emphasize hands-on experience with art media, instructed by experienced professionals.

Computer Lab - Fannin County is an economically deprived community, with many of its inhabitants living under the poverty line. Many are underemployed or out of work. The

computer training and personal development will allow them to acquire a skill that will help to build their self esteem and enable them to enter the workplace with a marketable skill.

e. Schedule – The Art Program classes for the three to six age group meets from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. and the seven to twelve age group meets from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., every Wednesday for ten months starting in April.

Participants in the Computer Lab classes will spend two hours, two nights a week, for six weeks learning the basics of computer operation, resume writing and grooming techniques. A funded grant of \$5,000 would be divided equally between the two programs. The funding would provide 7 ten month scholarships for classes in the Angels for Artists program, and 14 adults would be able to go through the computer lab.