

2020

## Proposal Submitted to the Lilly Endowment

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PROPOSAL SUBMITTED TO: The Lilly Endowment

TITLE OF PROPOSAL: A grant to fund an extension program of college classes among the Alaskan natives at Kotzebue in Northwest Alaska for a period of three years, 1973-1974-1975.

INSTITUTION: George Fox College, Newberg, Oregon 97132

PRESIDENT: Dr. David C. Le Shana

This is a request to the LILLY ENDOWMENT for consideration of a grant to Friends United Meeting, Richmond, Indiana, for a two-fold purpose. First, the funding of a program of college extension classes among the Alaskan natives in Kotzebue under the auspices of California Yearly Meeting of Friends in cooperation with Alaska Yearly Meeting and George Fox College. California Yearly Meeting is a member of Friends United Meeting. Second, funding of a two-year project of research and writing on the history of the Friends work in Alaska.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY OF PROPOSAL:

PART I:

Operational budget for 3 years	\$ 208,904	
Educational equipment needs for Kotzebue Center	<u>17,830</u>	
Total requested for Center		\$ 226,734

PART II:

Research and writing budget	<u>20,000</u>	
Grand Total		\$ 246,734

PART I:

Quakers have been pioneers in educational work among the Alaskan natives for almost a century. The first mission and school in northwest Alaska for the natives was established by California Friends in 1887, just twenty years after the Seward purchase of the territory from Russia. The effectiveness of the mission and the Quaker philosophy of emphasis upon training native leadership has resulted in a strong indigenous church organization which has made a great impact upon the culture of Alaskan natives.

At the invitation of church and community leaders in this Alaskan community of almost 2,000 Alaskan natives inside the Arctic Circle, George Fox College (a Quaker college located in Newberg, Oregon) began a feasibility study two years ago, which resulted in a pilot program of classes during October of 1972.

A brochure outlining this program and a report of the October short-term are appended to this report. George Fox College was selected because of its interest in the Alaskan native, since many of the leaders in Alaska are alumni of the College, and because of its educational program. The program makes available qualified personnel with leadership in the field of experimental education. Having been involved in the development of the Slide-Sponder and Sound-Sponder teaching machines, and having had practical experience in classroom situations in testing the effectiveness of individual learning with these machines, they are well equipped to deal with individual educational problems. A brochure on the teaching machines is included in supplemental material.

The extension program is a cooperative educational enterprise, sponsored jointly by California Yearly Meeting of Friends (founders of the Alaska Mission), Alaska Yearly Meeting of Friends, and George Fox College. It reflects the historic concern of Quakers for ministry to minority groups. The natural climate of rapport which George Fox College has with the native community and constituency in the Kotzebue area provides an atmosphere of interest and cooperation in which the college can effectively serve the community.

The response of the community to the initial program seemed to indicate a vital need for educational opportunities and reflected the eagerness of the people to improve themselves. The following factual profile portrays something of the need:

1. The average per capita income for Alaskan natives is about one-fourth that of the average white Alaskan.
2. The educational level of the average native Alaskan adult is only the fourth or fifth grade level.
3. The Alaskan native's average life-span is less than half that of the white people in the rest of the United States.
4. Alaskan native housing is tragically substandard and overcrowded by American standards.
5. There is no industry or natural resources in northwest Alaska to provide a base for a sustained economy.
6. The Alaskan native is making a transition from a subsistence economy of hunting and fishing to a moneyed economy, and needs help in understanding and adjusting.
7. Educational opportunities in northwest Alaska are very limited. Instead of shipping the natives out of the area to college, we propose to bring college opportunities to the native in his own community.
8. The Alaskan native needs encouragement and training to develop his leadership skills to assume positions of influence and activity in his own culture and society.

9. The Alaskan natives are basically an intelligent, industrious, and adaptable people. Given opportunities they can upgrade their level of living. But on a poverty-level existence they cannot afford the tuition costs of traditional higher education.
10. The Alaskan natives are eager for educational opportunities, as shown in their response to our first short-term program of classes.

#### PROGRAM PROPOSAL

George Fox College has a viable program already set up and functional. But as a private liberal arts institution there are limited resources in its operational budget for this program. These limited resources include participation in a Title III Grant, and some small participation by the Alaskan natives themselves. The Title III monies have already been expended in the pilot project.

Program projection for the Kotzebue Center, dependent upon adequate funding, includes plans for a minimum of three mini-terms of classes (4 to 6 weeks) per year, utilizing two or three professors per term. These will be supplemented with self-learning programs of electronic instruction, programmed instruction work-books, and credit by examination (CLEP).

Educational radio and cable television have come into Kotzebue within the past few months: Both of these have offered their facilities in implementing educational programs through media. Radio will reach the native villages within a radius of 100 miles. George Fox College proposes to develop some college courses with audio and video taping for release through the media to outlying areas where there are no educational opportunities.

#### PART II:

There is no good history of the Friends work in Alaska presently available. A well-documented narrative would be helpful to cultural anthropologists who recognize the impact of Friends in Alaska but lack data by which to evaluate Quakerism's role in respect to ethnic values under changing cultures. This documentation would be useful to the Alaskan Native Church also whose indigenous development could be better understood and explained, especially if Alaskan natives provide much of the information and reflection. The involvement of several George Fox College alumni over the past six decades, from Delbert Replogle to Earl and Janice Perisho, as well as the development of the Kotzebue Center, makes this project especially important to the college. At present we have begun to collect various artifacts and documents at the George Fox College Shambaugh Library. Taped interviews with Alaskan natives who remember the various stages in the development of the Alaska Quaker Church are needed and should be secured before the present generation is gone.

#### PROGRAM PROPOSAL

The project involves research and writing by a qualified scholar and final manuscript submission to publishers. He will be assisted by a research assistant and secretary. The project will involve four trips to the Kobuk River region where the Friends churches are located with stops at Annette and Douglas

Islands where Quakers engaged in religious and service projects, and also in Anchorage and Fairbanks where newly established Alaskan native churches reflect the new patterns of mobility.

The budget and capital needs represented in this proposal are as follows:

OPERATIONAL BUDGET FOR THE KOTZEBUE CENTER:

	<u>1st Year</u>	<u>2nd Year</u>	<u>3rd Year</u>
Director's salary	\$ 10,000	\$ 11,000	\$ 12,100
Secretary and office expense	4,800	5,200	5,700
Instructional salaries	12,500	13,750	14,125
Fringe Benefits @ 11%	2,915	3,207	3,528
Transportation & travel	6,800	6,800	6,800
Maintenance of personnel on field	6,300	6,930	7,635
Native coordinator & promoter	5,000	5,000	5,000
Printing, promotion, mailing, etc.	1,500	1,500	1,500
Audio-visual instructional programming	4,200	4,200	4,200
Audio & video media programming	6,200	6,200	6,200
10% contingency fund	5,730	6,058	6,326
Operational budget per year	<u>\$ 65,945</u>	<u>\$ 69,845</u>	<u>\$ 73,114</u>

Total for 3-year period

\$208,904

EQUIPMENT NEEDS FOR KOTZEBUE CENTER:

Baldwin electronic piano laboratory	\$ 6,500
Audio-visual music instruction laboratory	2,500
Two (2) Slide-Sound Sponders for self-instruction	670
Two (2) sets of instructional programs	2,400
Video-tape camera and monitor	2,140
Cassette TV instructional programs	1,400
Recorder, tape-deck, & microphones for radio programming	1,220
Tapes and materials for filming	<u>1,000</u>
Total equipment needs	<u>\$ 17,830</u>

Total funding for Kotzebue Center

\$226,734

RESEARCH AND WRITING PROJECT BUDGET:

Researcher stipend @ \$6000 per year	\$ 12,000
Research assistant stipend @ \$1700 per year	3,400
Travel and per diem	2,400
Taping, copying, etc.	200
Office expense and overhead	<u>2,000</u>
Total funding for research and writing for 2 years	<u>\$ 20,000</u>

Total funding for Alaskan natives work

\$246,734