



## Request for Proposals 2008 – 2009

### What is The Mother House Fund?

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*The Mother House Fund's Vision is to sustain, nurture and improve the lives of children and families, wildlife and the environment. . .and in the process create local and global connections that strengthen the notion of One Earth, One Family.*

Just before Christmas 1999, at the age of 52, Janet Smith traveled to China to become a first-time mother to a little girl from Hunan Province. Nine years later, in the Spring of 2008, she established The Mother House Fund to inspire the work of creating local and global life-sustaining connections in the name of compassion, healing and hope.

Shortly after establishing The Mother House Fund, His Holiness the Dalai Lama came to Janet's home city of Seattle, Washington, to lead a *Seeds of Compassion* conference. Thousands of children participated. This is the nature of the work she envisioned for The Mother House. The Mother House Fund's first grant was given to underwrite the cost of 100 children participating in the *Seeds of Compassion* programs with the Dalai Lama.

At the April 2008 *Seeds of Compassion* conference, Janet heard a young woman speak of the need for funding to get philanthropic efforts off the ground – especially for teens who want to make a difference in the world. Janet was inspired to create the Mother House Fund's Seeds of Compassion Youth Grants Program to support local Seattle-area youth with seed money to help nurture their efforts.

## Seeds of Compassion Youth Grants Program

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Our Seeds of Compassion Youth Grants program addresses needs by offering “seed grants” to Seattle-area high school student projects that reflect the vision of the Mother House Fund.

### *What is a Seed Grant?*

Each seed grant will be between \$500 - \$1000 to help you jumpstart your new project, or to help you continue your current project. The seed grant can be used for a variety of things, for example (but not limited to):

- Paying upfront for materials (for example, t-shirts) that you will sell later on to raise funds
- Paying for food and refreshments for a fundraising or community event
- Paying for rental space for a fundraising or community event
- Paying for equipment or marketing materials (i.e. flyers, posters, CDs, DVDs) that you will use to promote your project

For examples of projects that other students have completed, [click here](#) or visit <http://www.motherhousefund.org/projects.htm>

### *Project Sponsor*

- Each student **MUST** have a sponsor from their school or 501c3 nonprofit organization that will participate actively in the ongoing management of the project, and process the grant.
- We are **NOT** able to make a grant directly to the student(s).
- Your sponsor’s contact information should be included on the Grant Cover Sheet form with this application

## Required Information

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- Grant Cover Sheet – see attached and available at [www.motherhousefund.org](http://www.motherhousefund.org)
- Proposal Narrative (maximum 4 pages)
- Project Budget (sample provided at [www.motherhousefund.org](http://www.motherhousefund.org))
- Letter of Support from Your 501c3 Sponsor – we **CANNOT** make a grant to an individual
- Sponsor’s 501c3 IRS determination letter

## Proposal Narrative

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1. Briefly describe your project’s mission and goals.
2. What do you hope to accomplish during 2009?
3. Please describe the activities and timeline to meet your project goals.
4. Who will carry out these activities?
5. Please describe your relationship with the sponsoring organization (is it your school, a club in which you are a member, another nonprofit organization, etc.).

## **2008 – 2009 Timeline & Contact Information**

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All applications and backup materials must be received by 5:00PM on Friday, January 30, 2009. The Mother House Fund will review proposals and contact you for more information if needed. Final grant decisions will be made by March 2009. Recipients will be notified at that time and the funds will be awarded. The Mother House Fund may wish to meet with you, and funds are to be used by December 31, 2009.

Please mail your application to:  
Savitha Reddy Pathi, Program & Donor Services Officer  
Mother House Fund c/o The Seattle Foundation  
1200 Fifth Avenue, Suite 1300  
Seattle, WA 98101-3151

We encourage you to call with any questions or to discuss your proposal. You can contact Savitha at (206) 515-2113 or [s.pathi@seattlefoundation.org](mailto:s.pathi@seattlefoundation.org) or Janet Smith at [Janetdsmith1@gmail.com](mailto:Janetdsmith1@gmail.com)

For more information about the Mother House Fund, visit [www.motherhousefund.org](http://www.motherhousefund.org)

The Mother House Fund is a donor advised fund of [The Seattle Foundation](http://www.seattlefoundation.org).



## Grant Cover Sheet

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**High School:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Sponsor Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Sponsor Organization:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Website:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Name of Project:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Project Budget:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Amount of Request:** \_\_\_\_\_

**How Did You Hear About the Mother House Fund Seeds of Compassion Youth Grants Program?** \_\_\_\_\_

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