

Post marked May 1, 2012 Madison WI  
Rec'd May 2, 2012

Left message on Alyssa Divine's phone  
confirmed the request would be  
considered at next meeting.

JD  
5/3/2012

April 16, 2012

Biddick, Inc  
11623 State Road 80  
Livingston, WI 53554

Dear Elmer Biddick Charitable Foundation Board Members:

Please accept the enclosed grant application from the Runaway and Youth Services program for consideration. I have also enclosed a copy of our IRS Letter of Determination – 501(c)(3).

I would like to express our sincere appreciation of the foundation's generosity in the past and hope that we can depend on your support again this year. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the grant application, please do not hesitate to contact me at (608) 448-1011 or via email at [alyssa.divine@lsswis.org](mailto:alyssa.divine@lsswis.org). I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,



Alyssa Divine  
Program Coordinator – Runaway and Youth Services  
Lutheran Social Services of WI & Upper MI, Inc.

Brian D. Nodolf - President  
Roger D. Biddick - Vice-President  
Bradley D. Biddick - Secretary/Treasurer

**Elmer G Biddick**  
**CHARITABLE FOUNDATION**  
11623 State Road 80 Livingston, WI 53554  
Phone (608) 943-6363 Fax (608) 943-6365  
[www.biddickfoundation.com](http://www.biddickfoundation.com)

Reebel L. Jordan  
James W. Neundorff  
Dinah J. Overton  
Wendy L. Peter

**GRANT APPLICATION. Due Dates May 1<sup>st</sup> and November 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Date:** 04/16/2012

**Name of Organization:** Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, Inc. (LSS) Runaway and Youth Services (RAYS) program

**Address:** 115 W. Merrimac St.  
Dodgeville, WI 53533

**Phone:** (608) 935-9235

**Person Responsible for the Grant:** Alyssa Divine

**Position in the Organization:** Program Coordinator for the RAYS program

**Organization's Purpose:** The Runaway and Youth Services program of Lutheran Social Services, works to strengthen families, prevent family dissolution, promote self-sufficiency, and assure permanent, stable homes for youth in Iowa, Grant, Green, Crawford, and Lafayette counties. We do this by improving the network of support to youth (ages 11-17) and their families through confidential and voluntary crisis-intervention services. Such services include: 24-hour crisis hotline (1-855-LSS-RAYS), individual counseling for youth, family mediation & counseling, emergency shelter, educational programs, counseling groups, and youth outreach. RAYS is the only program of its kind in this area. All services offered are free, voluntary, and confidential. We are nonprofit, and enclosed you will find our IRS Letter of Determination – 501(c)(3).

**Grant Request:** \$1500

**Describe the reason for this grant request:** The purpose of this grant is to request funding for our 14<sup>th</sup> annual "Branching Out" conference. Branching Out is a daylong conference that targets the psychosocial needs of at-risk adolescents. Past workshop topics have included: self-esteem, teen depression, body image, healthy relationships, cyber safety/cyber bullying, AODA awareness, team building, anger management, stress management, martial arts, and tai chi. We have already begun the planning process for the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Branching Out conference which will be held in the fall. The workshops for this year will include: media images and self-respect, healthy dating relationships, teens in crisis/runaway prevention, bullying, AODA awareness, and team building. For this year, the conference will combine both boys and girls, and be held for one day. By bringing the genders together, it is hoped that transportation costs will decrease, and participation level will increase. Also, it is predicted that the boys and girls will be able to learn and grow from each other's perspective and unique views.

#### **A. Supporting Information:**

1. **Specific use of grant:** Grant money will be used toward the overall cost of the "Branching Out" conference which includes, but is not limited to, venue costs, transportation, materials, lunch, and team leaders.
  
2. **Time Schedule:** The Branching Out event for 2012 is scheduled to take place in the fall.
  
3. **Other Sources of Funding:** We will also request funding from the United Fund of Iowa County, United Way of Platteville, United Way of Green County, Alliant Energy, and Wal-Mart.
  
4. **Describe the effect of postponing your request to another time:** Funding from the United Ways and other sources has been slowly decreasing. Postponing our funding request would mean that we may need to discontinue the Branching Out conference for our service area.
  
5. **Describe who, when, how, and where will the effects of this grant be felt:** A grant from The Elmer Biddick Foundation would contribute to the ability to provide a valuable learning and prevention experience to area youth. Engaging youth in prevention increasing their ability to handle difficult situations with the positive tools highlighted within Branching Out. The Branching Out conference greatly increases the visibility of the program in the area, as well as the number of youth that are served.

#### **B. Organization's History, Activities, Services, and Composition**

The Runaway and Youth Services (RAYS) program (established in 1987) is a part of Lutheran Social Services (LSS) of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, Inc. The RAYS program employs one half-time coordinator/counselor, and one full-time (32 hours/week) AmeriCorps worker. LSS is comprised of over 2,100 employees and several hundred volunteers providing services to approximately 100,000 persons annually at over 200 locations statewide. LSS is affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church and serves all people, regardless of race, sex, age, ability, or faith/creed. It is not the goal of the RAYS program to evangelize.

Applications are considered in June and December of each year. The corresponding deadlines are May 1<sup>st</sup> and November 1<sup>st</sup>. Concise grants that address the needed information are appreciated.

**PLEASE SEND THIS APPLICATION TO ELMER G BIDDICK CHARITABLE FOUNDATION:**

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Livingston, WI 53554  
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