

THE BLANK FOUNDATION
“General Grant for Women” Program
Due Date: March 18, 2006

CONTACT INFORMATION

THE BLANK ORGANIZATION
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FINANCIAL Information:

Because THE BLANK ORGANIZATION is a relatively young organization, we are in the process of developing a financially sound financial management and accounting system. We have recently retained the services of a CPA who is assisting us in this process. As soon as that form is completed, we will be pleased to forward a copy to the Foundation.

APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION

History of Our Organization

THE BLANK ORGANIZATION considers itself to be an emerging and dynamic young nonprofit organization, eager to join other quality organizations in pursuit of improving the quality of life of disadvantaged people throughout our great country. **THE BLANK ORGANIZATION** was founded in Kern County, California, but we have worked assertively to establish and replicate our innovative approaches and California successes in Georgia (**The THE BLANK FOUNDATION**). Toward that end, we are respectfully requesting sufficient **funds** to assist in our efforts toward that goal.

When **THE BLANK ORGANIZATION** was initially founded, Founder **SO & SO** maintained a career as a health educator at a clinic California. She conducted thorough outreach and ethnography in impoverished communities in Kern County and at a well established university, where she also educated students that previously dwelled in disadvantaged neighborhoods. As she educated a massive amount of at-risk individuals about the harm of HIV/AIDS, she began to notice that the individuals faced day to day barriers such as poverty, gang violence, and drug abuse. Community and college recipients began to share their feelings about HIV/AIDS and their responses were: “We already have so many other negative problems affecting us, and now we face horrible news about a devastating virus...we never receive positive news...we feel hopeless.” When she processed the information she felt compassion upon her community and she began to collect resources and information about community building through a women’s empowerment Foundation in California. Not only did she gain knowledge about community building through the Foundation, she began to recruit those same disadvantaged individuals in her community because she felt the need to teach them what she had learned in her previous experience for the women’s empowerment organization in California. She called her fellow **THE BLANK ORGANIZATION** participants “Members” and helped both herself and Members’ develop aspects of living better and healthier lifestyles by encouraging them to test for HIV/AIDS, search for tools to maintain healthy diets and relationships, and empowering participants (including herself) to accomplish yearned dreams, goals, and aspirations by attaining educational resources that would contribute to and further their desired futures.

In 2005 The women’s empowerment foundation awarded **THE BLANK ORGANIZATION** a grant in the amount of \$10,000.00 for the implementation of the **THE BLANK ORGANIZATION Women’s BLANK Project** which served the State of California. **THE BLANK** Project was designed to give young underrepresented artistic women

in Kern County tools and a voice to not only speak out against women's inequality in the music and entertainment industry, but also to speak out about emerging issues such as social, political, and economic inequities through an **Empowerment Compilation Album**. The album would also serve as a fundraiser to employ the disadvantage members to continue to conduct roles of advocacy through **THE BLANK ORGANIZATION**.

In addition to establishing and maintaining an effective grassroots organization and wonderful project such as **BLANK** in California, **THE BLANK ORGANIZATION** also established a branch of its innovative approaches in the state of Georgia. **THE BLANK ORGANIZATION** has been a dynamic organization and community gap bridge that is highly consistent with the mission of the **THE BLANK FOUNDATION** by virtue of its using **performing arts as a tool to encourage young women to speak out about societal issues, and to make a positive effort to contribute to civic livelihood. The founders chose the vehicle of performing arts as a means of overcoming the root causes and risk factors contributing to impoverished lives, such as: economic and social deprivation; low educational aspirations and attainment; availability, tolerance and use of alcohol and drugs; limited view of, and experience in, the broader community and world; underdeveloped self esteem and self confidence; and inadequate health and self care.**

Program Design

We at **THE BLANK ORGANIZATION** believe that there is a direct link between communities that suffer from the physical and psychological side-effects of poverty, and being at-risk of becoming victims of negative consequences caused by socioeconomically disadvantaged backgrounds, such as Emotional Distress and Illness, Substance Abuse and Addiction, Illiteracy, Homelessness, Suicide, Crime, Child and Domestic Abuse and Premature Death. We base our conclusion about poverty upon the information that we received from Yale University Graduate Michael Parenti, PhD, who reported:

- **In 2000 13 million of nation's children lived in poverty, a higher rate than 20 years before.**
- **Estimates of homelessness vary from 1 to 3 million, almost a third are of whom are families with children.**
- **1 of every 5 U.S. adults is functionally illiterate.**
- **Poverty brings discernible increases in illness, emotional distress, substance addictions, suicide, crime, and early visits to the grave.**
- **The number of young people who kill themselves has tripled since the 1950's.**
- **Over 2 million children-predominately but not exclusively from lower income families-are battered, abused, abandoned, or seriously neglected each year.**

We at **THE BLANK ORGANIZATION** would like to prevent young women from becoming a part of poverty's problems which are also a part of the of the negative facts presented above, and aid young women who wish to get themselves out of poverty's negative categories. We feel that young women in Georgia will become stronger individuals by acknowledging poverty's problems, fighting poverty's problems through community work, and informing others of poverty's problems in order to gain additional support, knowledge, and resources to help prevent the downward spiral of young women.

The Project is known as **The BLANK Project**, which coincides with our Compilation and Compositions program. Seven Women from Fulton, DeKalb, Clayton, Cobb, Gwinette, Fayette and Carroll County will be responsible for aiding **THE BLANK ORGANIZATION** in formulating an **THE BLANK ORGANIZATION** Empowerment Compilation Album involving underrepresented community members from Fulton, DeKalb, Clayton, Cobb, Gwinette, Fayette, and Carroll County. The Women will also be responsible for gathering financial and in-kind resources in order to put those resources towards the Album as well as expanding their knowledge in Philanthropy and the Music and Entertainment Industry. The Empowerment album will address and articulate emerging issues such as social, political, and economic inequities, and ongoing issues that happen in the personal lives of the underrepresented compilation participants.

We will utilize the funds provided by **THE BLANK FOUNDATION** to formulate the album; create a single hit video introducing the album; provide our Participants and Staff with stipends; promote the album to community members that dwell in the seven counties; and promote the album to individuals regionally and nationally, so that we may host our album and single hit video that represents the album on major media networks such as **BET** and **MTV**. Proceeds from this album will be allocated back to **THE BLANK ORGANIZATION** in order to create paying positions for the underrepresented members who participate in the compilation.

We at **THE BLANK ORGANIZATION** feel that music is a wonderful way to create change, yet there are more men involved in the music and entertainment industry than there are women. The over saturation of men who control the music and entertainment industry often cause young women that strive to become successful stewards of entertainment to become the prey to the men who have control. Through the Women’s BLANK Project, **THE BLANK ORGANIZATION** women and girls will exercise social entrepreneurship, and demonstrate that they too are capable of maintaining control over musical and entertainment ventures, as well as other business ventures. We are extremely confident that the Empowerment Compilation Album will: **(EXPECTED CHANGE/EVALUATION ALSO SEE BELOW)— 1.)** Introduce and open up a wide spectrum of career life opportunities for the strong, young intelligent women that participate and grow in the Women’s BLANK movement. **2.)**Educate more advanced and sophisticated communities, regionally and nationally, about the disparities that take place in the 7 counties and beyond as a means of generating significant financial, artistic and other support for local members’ goals and activities. **3.)** Promote the Work of **THE BLANK ORGANIZATION** recipients who are readily committed to activism. **4.)** Create paying positions for hardworking **THE BLANK ORGANIZATION** members so that they may be in a better financial position to fully participate in **THE BLANK ORGANIZATION** projects and activities. **5.)** Gain recognition for the hard work that **THE BLANK ORGANIZATION** has put forth in pursuit of its mission.

Please review our Program Analysis Chart which further explains our Project Activities, Priority Population, Timeline, Expected Change, and Evidence of Change.

Project Activities (What we will undertake with THE BLANK FOUNDATION'S Funds)	Priority Population (Who and how many people we will reach through this activity)	Timeline (When we will offer the activities)	Expected Change (The changes and outcomes we expect to see from our activities)	Evidence of Change (How we will know that the expected change has occurred)
Objective 1.) 1.) Existing THE BLANK ORGANIZATION members will be responsible for the selection of 7 underrepresented women that reside in Fulton, Dekalb, Clayton, Cobb, Gwinette, Fayette and Caroll County to participate in the Women’s BLANK Project.	7 Women who have been seriously affected by negative conditions caused by poverty in Fulton, Dekalb, Clayton, Cobb, Gwinette, Fayette and Caroll County.	8/06-10/06	EXPECTED CHANGE # 1. see above	THE BLANK ORGANIZATION will keep a written journal that will indicate the progress of Objective 1. We will also provide video footage to document the progress of objective 1.
Objective 2 1.) 7 Women’s BLANK Participants will part receive training in the areas of Philanthropy and Music.	7 Women who have been seriously affected by negative conditions caused by poverty in Fulton, Dekalb, Clayton, Cobb, Gwinette, Fayette and Caroll County.	10/06	EXPECTED CHANGE # 1. see above	THE BLANK ORGANIZATION will keep a written journal that will indicate the progress of Objective 2. We will also provide video footage to document the progress of objective 2.

2.) 7 Women will notify community members in the 7 counties about Empowerment Album auditions through outreach.	7 Women who have been seriously affected by negative conditions caused by poverty in Fulton, Dekalb, Clayton, Cobb, Gwinette, Fayette and Carroll County. And 70+ community members that resided in the seven counties.	10/06-2/07	EXPECTED CHANGE # 1, 2. see above	THE BLANK ORGANIZATION and BLANK Participants will keep a written journal and will keep outreach data on an outreach statistical tracking log for Objective 2.
Objective 3 1.) 7 Women in conjunction with existing THE BLANK ORGANIZATION staff will conduct and facilitate Empowerment Compilation Auditions.	7 Women who have been seriously affected by negative conditions caused by poverty in Fulton, Dekalb, Clayton, Cobb, Gwinette, Fayette and Carroll County. And 70+ community members that resided in the seven counties.	10/06-2/07	EXPECTED CHANGE # 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. see above	THE BLANK ORGANIZATION and BLANK Participants will keep a written journal and will keep in house statistical data on an outreach statistical tracking log for, and provide evaluation forms for the community to fill out that inquire about the satisfaction and performance of our Compilation services for Objective 3.
Objective 4 7 Women in Conjunction with existing THE BLANK ORGANIZATION staff and outside entertainment business professionals will be responsible for the compilation audition selection, the song music compilation development, and the formulation of a music video that announces the spirit and motivation behind the album through a single Empowerment song selected from the Empowerment Compilation Album.	7 Women who have been seriously affected by negative conditions caused by poverty in Fulton, Dekalb, Clayton, Cobb, Gwinette, Fayette and Carroll County, 10+ additional THE BLANK ORGANIZATION performers, 70+ community members from the above counties.	3/07-5/07	EXPECTED CHANGE # 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. see above	THE BLANK ORGANIZATION and BLANK Participants will keep a written journal and will keep in house statistical data on an outreach statistical tracking log for, and provide evaluation forms for the community to fill out that inquire about the satisfaction and performance of our Compilation services for Objective 4. We will also provide video footage to document the progress of objective 4.
Objective 5 7 Women in Conjunction with existing THE BLANK ORGANIZATION members and entertainment professionals will be responsible for promoting the	7 Women who have been seriously affected by negative conditions caused by poverty in Fulton, Dekalb, Clayton, Cobb, Gwinette, Fayette and Carroll County, 10,000.00+ community members from the	6/07-7/07	EXPECTED CHANGE # 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. see above	THE BLANK ORGANIZATION and BLANK Participants will keep a written journal and will keep in house statistical data on an outreach statistical tracking log for, and provide evaluation forms for the community to fill out

Empowerment Compilation album to the media such as television, radio, and newspapers/magazines.	above counties and in the state of Georgia. 1,000,000+ Viewers nation wide.			that inquire about the satisfaction and performance of our Compilation services for Objective 5. We will also provide video footage to document the progress of objective 5.
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Performance Measures: We are further developing our evaluation system, with an expert in the field, but intend to use such measures as: number of participants in each activity, level of change/progress on individualized personal plans (both artistic and life status), correlation between areas changed and characteristics of root causes/risk factors; level and nature of project involvement by members of the communities and groups served.

For further questions about the success of this project please review our Empowerment Compilation album and music video for the Women’s **BLANK** Project for the state of California (sponsored by the **BLANK FOUNDATION**).

Collaborative Support

THE BLANK ORGANIZATION will solicit collaborative support for the Women’s **BLANK** Project from the following agencies:

Word On Da Street Magazine	Legion of Doom Records	The Shakur Family	The Department of Family and Children Services for Fulton, Dekalb, Clayton, Gwinette, Cobb, Fayette, and Caroll County.	Colleges and High Schools for Fulton, Dekalb, Clayton, Gwinette, Cobb, Fayette and Caroll County.
Walmart, Kinkos and Office Depot for Fulton, Dekalb, Clayton, Gwinette, Cobb, Fayette and Caroll County	Office of the Mayor	BET and MTV music television.	The Ludacris Foundation	Cynthia and Friends Television
Z Box Artist support agency	CD Baby independent Artist Support Agency	Group Americus	The Apache Cafe	THE BLANK FOUNDATION Radio Stations
M.M.W.M.C Associates	THE THE BLANK FOUNDATION WOMEN’S FOUNDATION	FDA Tax Services		

We at **THE BLANK ORGANIZATION** are optimistic about the amount of funds that we are requesting from **THE BLANK FOUNDATION** because we are able to accomplish a great deal with the amount of dollars that we have requested. Although, we understand that funds are limited from **THE BLANK FOUNDATION**. Yet we believe that if we were to receive only a portion of the amount that we are requesting that the out come of the project would still be the same because our ability to Empower others is based upon the RAPP model which is a fully articulated model in social work. The RAPP model is based upon these six cardinal principals:

- 1.) **The Focus Is on Individual Strengths Rather Than Pathology.**
- 2.) **The Community Is Viewed as an Oasis of Resources.**
- 3.) **Interventions Are Based on Self Determination.**
- 4.) **The worker Client Relationship Is Primary and Essential.**
- 5.) **Aggressive Outreach Is the Preferred Mode of Intervention**
- 6.) **As Human Beings, We Are Capable of Learning Growing, and Changing.**

We believe that our Empowerment project is a wonderful way to implement the six cardinal principals above. We definitely hope that you are to consider the full amount that we are requesting for this project, but we are humble enough to positively receive what you are able to give us.

APPLICATION BUDGET INFORMATION

	Current Year Budget (████████)	THE BLANK FOUNDATION Grant Request (████████)	
INCOME			
			<u>25,000.00</u>
<i>THE BLANK FOUNDATION Grant Request</i>			
Individual Contributions	<u>9,575.00</u>		
Foundation Grants	<u>10,000.00</u>		
Government Contracts/Grants			
Membership Dues			
Special Events	<u>1,000.00</u>		
Sales Income			
In-Kind	<u>2,600.00</u>		
Total Income	<u>23,175.00</u>	<u>25,000.00</u>	
EXPENSES			
Salaries	<u>12,800.00</u>	(For 2 Permanent part time employees and 7 Interim part time employees)	
Benefits and Taxes			
Professional Fees	<u>10,500.00</u>		
Occupancy (rent, utilities)			
Insurance			
Telephone			
Postage/Shipping			
Copying/Printing	<u>700.00</u>		
Supplies			
Equipment			
Meeting Expenses			
Travel/Transportation	<u>1,000.00</u>		
Accounting and Legal			
Total Expenses	<u>25,000.00</u>		