



LITERACY COUNCIL of ALASKA

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November 30, 2015

Dear Ms. Summerlin:

Please accept the following application for the Co-op Market's Lend-a-Hand Register Round-up Program. The Literacy Council of Alaska's (LCA) mission is to change lives through literacy. We work hard to teach and tutor children and adults. We help about 150 adults each year who are learning to speak English as a second language. We also help adults who have never learned to read above a 4th grade level. We serve hundreds of children each year through our after-school programs, tutoring, and special reading programs. We also have a strong community presence providing tens of thousands of books to local agencies such as senior centers, Early Head Start and other non-profits ,creating a print-rich environment.

One of our exciting success stories this year involved a local husband and wife who never learned to read. Both managed to cope and compensate despite hardship and challenges. They found their way to the Literacy Council hoping to get help. One of their goals was to learn how to read by the time their three year old daughter goes to school. They also have a long term goal of getting their GEDs. They come in multiple times each week to meet with their new volunteer tutor. This couple is now reading simple children's books to their child. They couldn't be more excited and represent all that success is at the Literacy Council of Alaska.

We have a rich relationship with the Co-op Market and its members. For example, the board of directors for the Co-op meets regularly at the Literacy Council. LCA also has students and staff that regularly visit the Co-op and many that are members. LCA was also a 2015 beneficiary of the Lend-a-Hand Program raising one of the highest donation totals ever. We would again be proud to participate in the Lend-a-Hand Program with the Co-op.

Thank you all for helping to invest in education and change lives through literacy!

Sincerely,

Mike Kolasa