



LITERACY COUNCIL of ALASKA

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November 18, 2014

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 Mongolian student learning English for the first time. She told us about how our services helped her through a crisis. Her English was very limited but she had taken our Emergency English class and learned to call 911, along with her address and and necessary information. When her 5-year old was sick at home and suddenly stopped breathing, she knew exactly what to do. The paramedics arrived and helped her child. Our student was very grateful for the English language skills that she gained in class. Sometimes changing lives through literacy means saving lives through literacy.

LCA also has a proud history of community collaboration. We have a great working relationship with Stone Soup and the Food Bank, both of which are past recipients of the Lend-a-Hand Program. LCA has also partnered with other recipients through the United Way. We are in close proximity to the Co-op and we see regular shopping by students, staff, and volunteers. We would be proud to participate in this program with the Co-op. LCA would include this sponsorship and highlight the Co-op on our Facebook pages, website, and LCA Newsletter.

The Literacy Council would appreciate any support that the Co-op is able to offer as we work to change lives through literacy.

Sincerely,

Mike Kolasa