



November 30, 2015

Co-op Market Grocery & Deli  
Attn: Kristin Summerlin  
526 Gaffney Road  
Fairbanks, AK 99701

RE: 2016 Lend-a-hand Program

Dear Kristin,

We are thankful to Co-op members and shoppers for their support in 2015, and for the opportunity to be considered for the program in 2016. In 1971 the Northern Center, then the Fairbanks Environmental Center, formed to become one of the first local environmental organizations in interior Alaska. Since those early days, the organization has grown to include 900+ members from all over Alaska and across the United States. Despite our growth, our mission remains true to our early beginnings: The Northern Alaska Environmental Center promotes conservation of the environment and sustainable resource stewardship in Interior and Arctic Alaska through education and advocacy. We support clean air, water, and land – something we can all agree on. It is through our education and outreach efforts that we are able to begin turning the tide towards more sustainable and environmentally mindful communities. This is our home. We raise our families, grow our food, and play in this special place in our world and we seek to conserve it for future generations.

It is no coincidence that our nickname is “The Center”. Over the years, the Northern Center has been a place where community groups and concerned citizens could gather to discuss important environmental concerns and organize to take action. Through the financial support of our members, community programs like Lend-a-Hand, and grants, the Northern Center is able to address many significant environmental issues facing interior and northern Alaska. The Northern Center works with coalition partners and local communities to achieve protections for wild places, ensure transparency and environmentally sound practices in development projects, and advocate for real solutions to address climate change. Often our work is strengthened through partnerships with community interest groups who lack the resources to address emerging issues of concern. These grassroots groups bring important perspectives to the conversation - from clean air to climate change we are committed to bringing community groups and individuals together to work for lasting solutions.

Thank you for offering the Lend-a-Hand Program to our community and for your commitment to bringing quality, sustainable food to Fairbanks. With the support received from Lend-a-Hand in 2015, we were able to continue the vital work of protecting the air, water, and lands of interior and northern Alaska.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Elisabeth Dabney  
Executive Director