November 29, 2019
Lend A Hand Program
CO-OP Market Grocery & Deli
526 Gaffney Road
Fairbanks, AK 99701

To the Coop Membership:

We at Guys and Gals Read request to be part of the Lend a Hand Program for 2020. We hope you will consider our request as our mission is to stimulate a real interest in reading in children by making reading fun.

One of the greatest indicators of future success in school, work, and life is if students read for pleasure. Most boys and many girls stop reading for fun around the 4th grade. Our program is built on having adult role models read exciting books to 4th graders during lunch time. This accomplishes two things: First the kids have fun through reading, and second, we show that “it’s cool” to read, as the men and women role models themselves have fun reading the books.

An overarching goal of our program is that every child should be helped to be successful in school and in life through improved literacy skills. This overarching goal aligns with the Coop goal of “creating a knowledgeable community informed about choices that impact personal wellness and the environment.” By helping children invest in reading we are helping them to better learn and access information, thus helping them to be more knowledgeable about their own health and their environment.

Last year 72 volunteer adult men and women were vetted and trained to read to 4th graders in the Borough School District. 555 boys were read to during lunch time for two weeks in September and in January. 522 girls were read to for two weeks in October and in February. Through the program 600 new books were donated to the local school libraries.

With your help we will again be reading to 4th graders during January and February, and September and October next year. Your donations will be used to purchase books, advertise, and enlist a gals read coordinator. Your donations will be used wisely as nearly all of the work for the program is done by volunteers. All of our readers are volunteers. The Board of Directors, as volunteers, does all of the administrative, fundraising, and community partnering activities. We are a Non-Profit Organization, section 501 (C) (3). [EIN 47-2634465].

We hope that you vote to support our efforts. Thank you and best wishes.

Bernardo Hernandez
Vice President / Guys Read Gals Read Inc.
2020 LEND A HAND APPLICATION
Deadline: November 30, 2019

OUR MISSION:
Co-op Market Grocery & Deli works for health and sustainability by providing healthful foods and products, promoting local suppliers, and offering consumer education in an open, community-centered environment, through a viable business.

OUR VALUES:
• Service – We are committed to the joy of true service, putting the needs of others first in a way that touches lives and hearts. Our service is an honor and a privilege.
• Sustainability – We seek to sustain our co-op’s financial health and growth while working toward solutions to economic development that consider the health our our community and planet.
• Social Responsibility – We believe that our actions must benefit the global community at large. This means that we promote justice and equity in all of our relationships and are committed to the people who use and work for our business.

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Name of Organization: Guys Read-Gals Read Inc.
Mailing Address: PO Box 196
City, State, Zip: Ester, AK 99725-0196
Contact Name: Bernardo Hernandez
Contact Email: bbhb816@ak.net
Website: guysgalsread.org
Facebook: Guys Read Gals Read
Instagram: Twitter: 

Name and address for check remittance (if it differs from above):
Name: Same
Mailing Address:
City, State, Zip:

Is this a 501(c)3 non-profit organization? If yes, please include certification with application.
Yes

Has your organization been a Lend a Hand recipient in the past? If so, when? No

Instructions: Please include a cover letter on your organization's official letterhead with this form.
1. Please provide your mission statement and a brief summary of your organization's work.

Please see attached.
2. How does your work align with Co-op Market's mission and values?

Please see attached.

3. How will the Lend a Hand funds be used?

Please see attached.

4. If your organization has received funding from Co-op Market in the past, please describe how this funding supported your organization and mission.

NA

5. What is your elevator pitch? Cashiers usually have about 10 seconds to describe our monthly recipient to a shopper. Please describe your organization and how the funds will be used in 100 words or less.

We inspire kids to read for fun. Please see attached.

6. Which month would you prefer us to fundraise for your organization? (Note: We cannot guarantee your month of choice.) Any month.

Applications will be published on our website. For this reason, please include no more than one piece of supplemental information (brochure, flyer, annual report, etc.) with your application.

In December, our Owners will vote to select our 2020 Lend a Hand recipients. If your organization is selected, we will require the following:

- 2 or 3 high resolution photos representing your work. Please include a photo release for any people appearing in your photos.
- A high resolution, printable jpg of your organization's logo.
- Promotion of the Lend a Hand program via your website, newsletter and/or social media pages.
- One scheduled 3-hour shift of tabling at the store during your Lend a Hand month.
- Brochures or flyers about your organization if available.

Important Note:
We do not donate to individuals, national charities, political candidates or organizations, organizations that advance a particular religious belief, or organizations that discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, disability or status in any other protected group.

Submit applications to the attention of Kristin Summerlin, Marketing & Owner Services Manager:

- via email to marketing@coopmarket.org (preferred). Be sure to include scans of supporting materials.
- by hand delivery to the Customer Service Desk.
- by mail to the following address: Co-op Market Grocery & Deli, 526 Gaffney Road, Fairbanks, AK 99701.
Guys Read, Gals Read
Attachment To “Lend A Hand” Application

Question #1:

Our mission is to stimulate a real interest in reading in children by making reading fun. Our program is built on having adult role models go into the elementary schools of the Borough School District and read exciting books to 4th graders during lunch time. Part of our program includes purchasing books that are fun to read and then donating three copies of each book to each school library. This program accomplishes two things: First the kids have fun through reading, and second, we show that “it’s cool” to read, as the men and women role models themselves are having fun reading the books.

Question #2:

An overarching goal of our program is that every child should be helped to be successful in school and in life through improved literary skills. This overarching goal aligns with the Coop’s mission of working for health and sustainability and its values of service, sustainability and social responsibility. By helping children invest in reading and gain better reading skills, we are helping them to better learn, access information, be more open and knowledgeable, and make more informed decisions, thus helping them to be better caretakers of our community, society and planet.

Question #3:

Donations will be used to purchase books, advertise for volunteer readers and to thank our sponsors, and enlist a gals read coordinator. Donations will be used wisely as nearly all of the work for the program is done by volunteers. All of our readers are volunteers. The Board of Directors, as volunteers, does all of the administrative, fundraising, and community partnering activities. We are a Non-Profit Organization, section 501 (C) (3). [EIN 47-2634465].

Question #4:

We have never received funding in the past from the Coop Lend A Hand program.

Question #5

We inspire kids to read for fun.

Question #6:

We are happy to receive a donation any month.
What is it?
The Guys and Gals Read programs successfully excites 4th grade boys and girls about books and reading by making it fun. The programs’ effective approach was created in Fairbanks by librarians and is managed by Guys Read Gals Read, Inc., a 501c3 nonprofit organization (EIN 47-2634465).

Why 4th Grade?
Most boys and many girls stop reading for pleasure around their 4th grade year, often due to a lack of adult reader role models and access to fun books.

How Does it Work?
• Volunteers who appreciate reading visit schools during the 4th grade lunchtime and read the first part of fresh, heavily-illustrated, and “kid-friendly” books.
• Schools are visited by readers four times in the fall and four times in the winter.
• Each featured book is read from one time, and multiple copies of the books are donated to the school libraries beforehand.

Does It Work?
• Our Guys Read program has won two national awards for its promotion of academic achievement and its innovative approach to literacy.
• Other communities in Alaska and the Lower 48 have successfully adopted the program.

How Can I Help?
• Volunteer to read: It’s fun, convenient and gratifying! Programs run for two weeks and reading sessions last less than 30 minutes.
• Sponsor the Program: Guys and Gals Read is entirely funded by private tax-deductible donations and in-kind support from businesses, organizations, and individuals.

Promote Reading
• Spread the word about the importance of reading in school, work, and life.
• Read to the children in your life, and let them see you read to yourself.
• Share your love of books and reading with others.

Where Can I Learn More?
Visit our website: GuysGalsRead.org
Write: P.O. Box 196, Ester, AK 99725
Dear Applicant:

We're pleased to tell you we determined you're exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c)(3). Donors can deduct contributions they make to you under IRC Section 170. You're also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under Section 2055, 2106, or 2522. This letter could help resolve questions on your exempt status. Please keep it for your records.

Organizations exempt under IRC Section 501(c)(3) are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. We determined you're a public charity under the IRC Section listed at the top of this letter.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that you're required to file Form 990/990-EZ/990-N, our records show you're required to file an annual information return (Form 990 or Form 990-EZ) or electronic notice (Form 990-N, the e-Postcard). If you don't file a required return or notice for three consecutive years, your exempt status will be automatically revoked.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that an addendum applies, the enclosed addendum is an integral part of this letter.

For important information about your responsibilities as a tax-exempt organization, go to www.irs.gov/charities. Enter "4221-PC" in the search bar to view Publication 4221-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities, which describes your recordkeeping, reporting, and disclosure requirements.
State of Alaska
Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development
Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing

Certificate of Incorporation

The undersigned, as Commissioner of Commerce, Community and Economic Development of the State of Alaska, hereby certifies that a duly signed and verified filing pursuant to the provisions of Alaska Statutes has been received in this office and has been found to conform to law.

ACCORDINGLY, the undersigned, as Commissioner of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, and by virtue of the authority vested in me by law, hereby issues this certificate to

Guys Read - Gals Read, Inc.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I execute the certificate and affix the Great Seal of the State of Alaska effective January 26, 2015.

Fred Parady
Commissioner