

Co-op Lend A Hand Application Questions and Answers

1. Mission Statement:

“To promote, develop, implement, sponsor and maintain programs of education in the history of the Fairbanks area.”

2. How does your work align with Co-op Market’s mission and values?

The Kitty Hensley House is a historic structure that was originally built in Fairbanks around 1904. It was remodeled approximately 1910 through 1914 into the one-of-a-kind Queen Anne style, two-story home that was gifted to the Pioneers of Alaska in 1966 to be moved to the newly created Pioneer Park. The Pioneers of Alaska Women’s Igloo #8 have continuously provided volunteers to open this building to the public during the summer tourist season since 1966; first as a visitor center, and now as a museum. The volunteers enjoying sharing their knowledge and experiences of Alaskan life with the visitors to the Kitty House. We feel it is important to offer the house as an example of early pioneer life in Fairbanks, along with stories of the people who built and inhabited the home. This ties in with the mission and values of the Co-op Market by maintaining this historic structure and sharing its’ history with tourists as well as local community members. Our enthusiasm for the history we share and the care and maintenance we put into this 120+ year-old house reflects the values of community service, sustainability and social responsibility.

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

The funds will be used for operation of Kitty House, primarily for maintenance and repairs of the building.

4. We have not received Lend a Hand funds in the past.

5. Elevator pitch:

The Kitty Hensley House Museum is a one-of-a-kind home built in the early 1900s located in Pioneer Park. It is the only Queen Anne styled home in the interior of Alaska. The house was owned by a single-mother who owned a transportation river boat that moved freight; both these circumstances were very rare. Kitty House displays the ingenuity of use of available materials, and quality workmanship of early Fairbanks construction. The funds will be used to continue the operation and maintenance of this unique museum.