

ROTARY DISTRICT 6860 SIMPLIFIED GRANT REQUEST

A District Simplified Grant (DSG) request supports short-term educational, charitable and humanitarian projects that are related to Rotary, District or Club goals and themes. DSGs are solicited from the Clubs and are evaluated on a competitive basis. Requests must address goals and/or themes, reflect Rotarian participation, provide evidence of community involvement and ownership, in the case of projects in a foreign country show local Rotarian or humanitarian group involvement, reflect how the management and expenditure of funds will be effected, and how the project will be promoted in the local media. DRG requests showing matching Club funds are encouraged as this tends to expand the effectiveness of the DSG program throughout the District.

1. Club making this request: *Rotary Club of Decatur, AL.*
2. Goals and/or Themes being addressed: *Community Service. Training people to get and keep jobs at the Neighborhood Christian Center (NCC) – (<http://ncc.arilion.com/page2.html>).*
3. Describe how Rotarians will be involved: *Rotarians will serve as Instructors, Mentors, and eventually as employers. Club and Grant Funds will be used to purchase the Jobs For Life (www.jobsforlife.com) Lesson Toolkits, the coursework materials needed for a 10 student class.*
4. Describe how the community will be involved and accept ownership: *Business Leaders (many Rotarians) will be guest speakers in the classes and assume positions as role models for the students.*
5. Describe how the funds will be managed and expended: *Budgets are prepared and approved by the NCC Board. All funds managed by NCC Administrative Director and NCC Board of Directors. Disbursements receive double signatures. Routine Audits are conducted.*
6. Describe how the Project will be promoted in the local media: *The city newspaper carries regular features on the NCC. This project will be highlighted with additional articles. Informational brochures will be developed and placed in local non-profit organizations and government offices.*
7. Project Principal Manager: *Ronny Russell.*

Club Position: *Community Service Director.*

E-mail address: *ronny@ronnyrussell.com*

Mailing address: *1707 Iris ST SW, Decatur, AL 35601.*

Phone: *256-353-0012 (w)* Fax: *256-353-4010 (w)*

8. Project Title: *Neighborhood Christian Center Jobs For Life Program*

9. Project Description: *The primary mission of the Neighborhood Christian Center, Inc. is to provide a compassionate ministry to the practical and spiritual needs of the city's poor. Target Population: Distraught adults who desire independence from social systems and other crutches and are seeking assistance for various crises needs.*

NCC Purpose: To help individuals set and attain reasonable goals while nurturing them to independence. The NCC serves practical and immediate needs with food, clothing, rent and utilities, and other forms of assistance. They strive to open doors that steer towards a craving to work instead of receiving handouts. For this reason, each program has some form of accountability.

Accountability sessions are designed to assist these people, many who are third and fourth generation welfare recipients. They are counseled on how to re-enter society as productive citizens who have acquired certain basic social and work skills.

Current studies indicate that it takes an approximate seven-year journey to fully cycle out of the welfare system. For this reason, they are willing to work on a long-term basis with those clients who are serious about achieving independence. With help from caring volunteers, their ultimate goal is to nurture those clients that are equally committed.

“Jobs for Life” is a program executed by the NCC that pursues its mission and vision by mobilizing community-based organizations as Jobs for Life (JfL) sites, each equipped with all the tools and processes necessary to provide job training and support to our country’s neediest citizens, lifting them from dependency to self-sufficiency. In order to assure that a local JfL site has the ability to do this the JfL training course is essential.

This training course consists of 16 sessions, combining instruction in principles of work and job readiness skills. Besides the training, each JfL student is matched with a champion - a mentor or a group of mentors - who provides the student the support needed through the class and the first year of his or her employment. With this support system and their own commitment JfL participants can overcome many of the obstacles that impede success - obstacles like child care, transportation, low self-esteem, lack of problem solving skills, and poor work ethic. Once they’re job-ready, students are given support in pursuing job listings that JfL sites attract from area businesses.

For the job seeker, the JfL course provides the knowledge, encouragement, and practical continuing support that empowers them to achieve high levels of success. And for the potential employer, the JfL training provides a well-trained, community-supported workforce that understands what it takes to land, maintain, and advance in a job.

Rotarians will serve as Instructors, Mentors, and eventually as employers. Club and Grant Funds will be used to purchase seven (7) JfL Toolkits (\$600 each), The JfL Toolkit will equip the NCC with the tools needed to conduct the proven, successful JfL strategy for helping people in our community secure employment and build healthy lives. The JfL Toolkit includes all the materials necessary to equip volunteer leaders to implement the JfL Training Class and promotional materials to mobilize many people inside and outside the NCC. Each Toolkit contains:

- 10 Student Workbooks (with homework)*
- 3 Instructor Guides, Site Leader Guide, Class Leader Guide*
- Student Relations Leader Guide*
- Champion Team, Business Relations, Administration Leader Guides*
- Testimony Video*
- 10 Career Assessments*
- CD of Forms*
- Student Progress Update Reports*

10. Total Project Budget: **\$ 4,200.00**

11. Budget Fund Sources: District: **\$ 2,000.00** Club: **\$ 2,200.00**

12. Club Member With Reporting Responsibility: ***Ronny Russell (Project Mgr) – contact information included previously.***

By signing below the Club President agrees: 1) all information contained in this request is true and accurate; 2) that the request meets the above DSG criteria; 3) the Club has formally agreed to undertake this project; and 4) that reporting requirements will be complied with (an interim project report is needed every 6 months after project approval and a final report not later than 2 months after completion of the project; photographs of project results should be attached to the final report for possible District use*)

President's name: Arthur Orr Signature: _____

Date of Signature: ____ / ____ / ____

*{Note: DSG applications, Interim and Final reports are submitted to the Chair of the District Grants Committee}

IMPORTANT TIME-LINE INFORMATION: Clubs receiving DSG funds are encouraged to complete their projects as soon as possible and file the necessary final reports as the District cannot receive next year's DSG funding from the Rotary Foundation until at least one-half of the funds are accounted for in final reports. Clubs wishing to receive DSGs are encouraged to submit their applications early in the Rotary year; however, the President will receive an email notification from the Grants Committee Chair as to the cut-off date. Clubs submitting DSG requests will receive an email notification as to the disposition of their requests. The actual DSG checks along with reporting instructions will be delivered to the Clubs by District Officers or Grants Committee members.