

Progress Report: Grant Proposal on Behalf of Deeds Not Words

Prepared by Marji Dzenko

Submitted to Beth Eakman

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### **Introduction**

This report will provide an update on the progress of my grant proposal for Deeds Not Words. Deeds Not Words seeks to empower young women by training them to become advocates and change-makers in their community. Deeds Not Words current campaign focuses on teaching millennial and Generation Z women how to use their voices to ignite change, specifically those who are victims of sexual assault and sex trafficking. These victims oftentimes do not feel that they have the power to speak up as they feel either ashamed or that they would be socially ousted. Through round-table discussions and training sessions at high schools and college campuses, Deeds Not Words gives these young women the toolkits they need feel confident and make their story heard. I do not yet know the specifics of the program or the costs. I am interested in the Dallas Women's Foundation as a potential funder because their mission is to "improv[e] our world by investing in women," which I think aligns with the goals of Deeds Not Words. They also work with several nonprofits already specifically on the topic of human trafficking. I am currently behind schedule, as my nonprofit has been very difficult to keep in contact with and has yet to settle on a date where I can visit their office to ask them specific questions necessary for the progression of my project.

### **Work Completed**

So far, I have not been able to complete the amount of work I had hope to have accomplished by this point in the semester. This is because my non-profit still has not given me the opportunity to visit them and has been slow to reply to my e-mails. Because I do not know exactly what the money is needed for, how much money they need, and other details about their program, I have been at a stalemate with researching and writing my grant.

Despite my non-profit's shortcomings, I decided to start doing research anyways. I visited the Foundation Library, where I was able to research potential foundations. I came up with a list of about four, of which only one feels like it could be a hand-in-glove match. I'm hoping to present them with this list to see if they've ever looked into these non-profits, and if so, if they were able to successfully win a grant from them.

The draft I have of my final proposal is very barebones at the moment, again, due to lack of information. I tried my best to fill out the "Organization Background" section, but outside of that, I really need to know more specifics from my non-profit to write more.

### **Work in Progress**

As previously touched on, I am at a stalemate, currently, in my project. While I am trying to do the most I can on my own with the limited information I have, I cannot progress without meeting my non-profit and asking pointed questions.

### **Work Remaining**

The majority of my project is "work remaining" as of right now; however, I am planning to meet with my non-profit on Friday to get the ball rolling on this. I decided that this will be the last opportunity I give them to work with me. While the mission of the non-profit is something that I care about, unfortunately, I have a paper that I need to write and a class I need to pass.

As for specifics of my remaining to-do's, I still need to draft, write, and revise essentially my entire proposal. I also need to obtain the necessary information from my non-profit so that I can do all of that.

### **Discussion**

My project is very much behind schedule. At this point, I was hoping to have a working draft of my proposal. As mentioned above, I have yet to write almost the entirety of my proposal due to my non-profit being flaky. Again, I am giving them this Friday, October 27, 2017, as the deadline for when I have to meet them by in order to be of help. I expressed this clearly in my most recent email to them. If they do not meet that deadline, I will have to pursue another non-profit to work with, as I need this class to graduate on time in December.

Update: I have reached out to the HARTH Foundation via email and hope to visit them as soon as possible. I will visit the Foundation Library this Friday to research possible foundation matches for HARTH, since Deeds Not Words has failed me again, saying they will not be in-office that day. I figured that if it is such a struggle to even schedule an initial meeting, that the nonprofit is just going to be difficult all throughout the process of trying to write this grant proposal. I am going to write them an email in which I will let them know that due to time constraints, I am unable to help them at this time. I will try to soften the blow of this by also including the foundations I've already researched for them as possible leads to pursue on their own.