EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Background: Mingus Mountain Academy (MMA) is a private, not-for-profit corporation founded in 1985. The MMA campus is surrounded by Yavapai National Forest and is 25 minutes from the Town of Prescott Valley, Arizona. Located on the 120-acre campus, MMA provides residential rehabilitation and treatment for adolescence girls who have mental and behavioral health diagnoses. Additionally, the girls in MMA's care have been victims of physical and/or sexual abuse. MMA also provides shelter care and fosters horses that have been surrendered, abandoned and/or physically abused. MMA participates in the Equine Assisted Growth and Learning Association (EAGALA) and utilizes the horses to deliver Equine Assisted Psychotherapy and Equine Assisted Learning. Equine Assisted Therapy is research-based treatment that is shown to be effective in treating victims of physical and sexual abuses.

Proposal: MMA is proposing a capital project that consists of the construction of a sixteen (16) stall barn for horses that MMA shelters and fosters. The barn will be enclosed and built to sustain the seasonal weather in Prescott Valley. In order to provide functional workspace, the barn will include a tact room and an office. The project will require framing, carpentry, plumbing, drainage, ventilation, electric, concrete and other construction. Each horse stall will be approximately 144 sqft, and allow access to feed and water. All funds granted through this proposal will be used for building materials and construction services. The capital project is projected to be completed within a 9 month period and will begin on award of the grant. MMA will only utilize local professionals to complete the project. Collaboration with the local animal shelters will continue as vacancies and re-homing of the horses is an on-going process.

Need: Horses are being neglected, abused, and abandoned at an alarming rate. The reasons a horse is rescued or surrendered are quite varied. Some horse owners have lost their homes and land to foreclosure, leaving nowhere for their horses to go. These horses are sometimes abandoned in the plains and deserts, where they often die of slow exposure. Droughts, rising food and fuel prices, and other economic pressures mean that some owners can no longer afford to feed and care for their horses. As the horse population has increased and the economy slowed selling the animals became more difficult. Some owners could no longer afford their investment. The price of hay, the main source of horde nutrition, has more than doubled over the past year because of drought and record high costs of fuel needed to grow and haul the crop. It costs approximately @2,300 per year to feed a horse, and add to that veterinary services, care and equipment.

MMA is, has responded to this need by providing care to horses that are surrendered, abused and/or abandoned. Currently, the horses at MMA do not have a barn to provide needed shelter which has resulted in the horses being contained and injuring themselves. Consequently, these injuries have created large veterinary bills. The additional money spent on veterinary bills has impacted MMA's ability to shelter additional horses as the funds for fed have been reallocated to cover medical expenses. Horse stables are essential to adequately care and tend to horses. Appropriate hygiene is very important to keep horses healthy. A horse barn provides a refuge for horses and a place that staff can tend to the horses' hygiene and other needs.

May 11, 2010

Prescott Valley Town Council
Prescott Valley Town Government
7501 East Civic Circle
Prescott Valley, AZ 86314

RE: Request for Support and Sponsorship

Dear Town Council,

Mingus Mountain Academy (MMA) is seeking the opportunity to submit a proposal to Ak-Chin Indian Community's 2010 12% Grant Program. The request for proposals is due Friday, May 28, 2010. A non-profit agency such as MMA can become "eligible" to submit a proposal if they can provide the following:

1. Proof of IRS tax exempt status from the IRS:
2. Proof of support and sponsorship from an Arizona city or town. Proof must be in the form of a resolution showing that the "Eligible Government" will act as a fiscal agent and accept funding on the non-profit's behalf. Additionally, the non-profit's application to RFP shall bare the signature of an authorized official of the Eligible Government: and
3. At least one letter of reference.

One of Ak-Chin Indian Community's funding priority areas is animal shelter/services for abused, abandoned or neglected animals. Therefore, it is MMA's intent to submit a proposal to fund a capital project to build an enclosed barn for the horses that MMA shelters. Currently, the budget for the project is being refined: however, the amount MMA requests in the grant will not exceed $150,000. The grant is a one-time funding opportunity. Therefore, the administrative management as the fiscal agent will likely be minimal.

The horses MMA shelters are obtained through local Yavapai County animal shelters. MMA believes this project will allow MMA to provide better shelter care for the horses and increase its capacity to shelter additional horses. Currently, the horses do not have a barn which has resulted in the horses not being contained and injuring themselves. Enclosed, is a detailed summary of the proposal.

MMA is respectfully requesting the Town of Prescott Valley support and sponsor this project by serving as the fiscal agent on behalf of MMA. Enclosed is a resolution that may be utilized as proof of the support and sponsorship. MMA believes this proposal is beneficial as it directly impacts the horses sheltered, the girls at MMA and provides work opportunity for Prescott Valley contractors and professionals.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please contact me with any questions. I can be reached at 520-400-5709.

Respectfully,

Chris Banken, CEO
Mingus Mountain Academy