

# Eastern District Funding for Innovative Programs

## Application Form

**Project Title:** Boomerang Character Education Program

**Project Timeline:** 2005-2006 school year and beyond

**Funding Requested:** \$450

**Project Lead/Grant Applicant:** Faye Malek, Manitowoc County Family Living Educator

**Current Collaborators:** Kevin Palmer, Manitowoc County 4-H Youth Development Educator, Duane Simmons, Guidance Counselor - Lincoln High School, Linda Luedtke - Two Rivers High School Guidance Counselor, Ellen Hope - Magee Guidance Counselor Amy Pendergast - Jackson Elementary Guidance Counselor, ten Lincoln High School and Two Rivers High School student volunteers, five fourth-grade teachers

We will expand this to at least one other elementary school during the 2005-06 school year.

### Situation Statement:

Last year, Kevin and I initiated the Boomerang character education Program in two school districts. The materials from Iowa State Extension were piloted and refined into eight interactive classroom lessons and, a full-day training for the facilitators.

A mid-year evaluation done with the school counselors and fourth grade teachers involved in this program indicated a strong desire to continue the project during the next school year. The Jackson Elementary School Guidance Counselor wishes to work with us to incorporate our materials into her efforts and has made a recommendation for expansion into another elementary school. Expansion of the program is contingent upon increasing the number of high school team teachers who will be trained in the Boomerang program. Currently, we are working to recruit additional students to both replace the seniors who will be graduating and, to include another school in the program in October. We do not foresee a problem with getting more recruits since the current team teachers have had positive experiences this year.

### Proposal and Goals:

The Human Services Department is in the process of determining if the \$25,000 in prevention money they receive annually could go into a salary to hire a person to further develop asset building programs such as Boomerang. We have discussed the idea that funds would be transferred through UW-Extension which would make it possible to both hire and house a person in the Extension office. Eventually, we would like this developed into a full-time position. In other words, there is county support for this program.

Because of the proposed expansion and the continuation of the Boomerang program, Kevin and I are looking for funds keep the program operating.

Here are our goals:

1. Expand the program by at least one school in the 2005-06 school year
2. Provide each team teacher with a Boomerang shirt to demonstrate teamwork when going out to the elementary schools
3. Provide a full-day training for new team teachers in July 2005 (train-the-trainer)
4. Initiate recognition at the graduating senior's awards night programs in spring where 4<sup>th</sup> grade students will speak on what the Boomerang experience meant to them. Kevin and I will award recognition pins.

In addition, Kevin and I will submit an application to present at the 2006 National Association of Extension 4-H Youth Development Educators in Milwaukee. We want to share our experiences and encourage other UW-Extension Educators to bring this concept into their communities.


**Budget:**

Because the county is demonstrating strong support for Boomerang and other prevention programs initiated through the Manitowoc County UW-Extension Family Living and 4-H Youth Development Educators, we want to be sure to maintain this quality program. Some funds are needed to assure that will happen.

Boomerang shirts for team teachers	\$200
Teaching supplies that we cannot get donated from schools	\$100
*Pins to award graduating seniors at Awards Night (These would be purchased 10 at a time)	\$50
Food for the full-day training of all team teachers in summer of 2005	\$100
	<b>Total: \$450</b>

**Applied for and Received Resource Management Dollars:**

- I applied for \$625 in Management Resource funds with Kevin Palmer in 2004 to begin a character education program in two school districts. We used the money to do that and want to increase that project this year. It has been a tremendous asset building activity for the 10 high school and 135 fourth grade students.
- I applied for \$2100 to do "The Latino Focus" in 2000. That research initiated our approach to assisting Latinos in their efforts to assimilate into Manitowoc County.



Grant Applicant/Lead

