



In every deliberation we must consider the impact on the seventh generation.
- Great Law of the Iroquois

August 27, 2010

Seven Generations Ahead Zero Waste Schools Consultant Proposal to Oak Park Elementary School District 97

Zero Waste School District Consulting Services

Over the past two years, Seven Generations Ahead has supported school-based waste assessment implementation, strategic plan design, and grant proposal development for the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Zero Waste Grant Program with District 97 schools. This work resulted in the awarding of Zero Waste Schools grants in the amount of:

- \$44,581 to all six applicants and District 97, including Beye, Whittier, Hatch, Lincoln, Longfellow, and Mann for the 2009-10 school year, and
- \$29,658 to all five applicants and District 97, including Beye, Holmes, Irving, Longfellow, and Mann for the 2010-11 school year.

The previous year (2008-09), SGA initiated its Zero Waste Schools program and piloted grant proposal development, waste assessments, and zero waste strategy design and implementation with Holmes Elementary, resulting in the awarding of:

- \$10,000 from the IL DCEO Zero Waste Schools Grant Program (to fund zero waste hard costs)
- \$7,500 from the Oak Park River Forest Community Foundation (to support in-school implementation, district to school coordination and communication, and other logistics related to the implementation of IL DCEO grant requirements)
- \$4,000 from the Lumpkin Family Foundation (to support the Earth Tub purchase).

Total Zero Waste funds raised through SGA support for all Oak Park Elementary School District 97 schools over the past three years totals **\$95,739**.

Building upon this success and understanding the logistical, procurement, and administrative coordination involved in meeting grant requirements, SGA proposes to provide Oak Park Elementary School District 97 with consulting services for the 2010-2011 school year to ensure grant compliance, implementation success, and financial savings for District 97. SGA is offering the following services to Oak Park Elementary School District 97:

- Support overall IL DCEO grant implementation, serving as a liaison between District 97 and eight individual D97 schools (5 current grant awardees and 3 schools that received awards previous years).
- Guide and support grant report development related to the IL DCEO Zero Waste Schools Grant Program.

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- Identify zero waste cost savings opportunities for District 97 related to landfill waste reduction, recycling, and product procurement.
- Provide research and information on Zero Waste materials pricing, procurement, and specifications.
- Collaborate in the development of overall District communications and publicity in relation to the Zero Waste Schools project, including the development of:
 - district-wide events
 - conference workshops at different professional association venues
 - press releases
 - District 97 Zero Waste Case Study and Report
- Create and support a Zero Waste Schools on-line discussion forum for District 97.

Fee Structure

Hours: 6.5 hours per week for 46 weeks (299 total hours)

Time Frame: August 27, 2010 through July 15, 2011

Rate: \$45 per hour

Fee: \$13,455

District 97 Contract: \$7,500

Individual School Contracts (5) - \$2,500

SGA in-kind - \$3,455

Zero Waste Schools Lead Consultant – Jennifer Nelson

Jen is SGA's chief Zero Waste Schools program expert, and will be the lead consultant on the project. Jen has implemented the Zero Waste Ambassadors project at Beye, Hatch, Lincoln, Longfellow, Mann and Whittier schools, including coordinating and consulting with the Zero Waste Team to develop strategies and educational activities; supporting grant writing and reporting; and working with the District 97 administration to prepare and submit the required expenditure reporting for the grant. Jen has worked directly with the schools from Oak Park and River Forest School Districts 97 to conduct waste audits, develop Zero Waste strategies and educational activities, and write funding proposals toward implementation of a comprehensive Zero Waste Schools initiative.

Zero Waste Schools Manager – Gary Cuneen

Gary Cuneen is the executive director of Seven Generations Ahead, and will oversee SGA's consultancy with District 97 and participating schools. Gary collaborated with Holmes to design the original Zero Waste Ambassadors pilot program, and supported the Holmes team with grant proposal writing and development for the IL DCEO and OPRF Community Foundation grant proposals. Gary developed the concept for a district-wide initiative and organized the most recent group of District 97 participating schools, and will support lead consultant Jennifer Nelson with overall project implementation. Gary will also support development of Zero Waste workshops, events, publicity, and community relations within Oak Park.

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