

22 June 2024

Dear Elizabeth Davis,

Re : Global Grant GG2240304

Thank you for your email of 30 May, 2024, concerning our Global Grant Rotary Grant GG2240304 in which you have returned our 2023 Interim Report back to draft status. You also are allowing us to submit a change to the scope of the project and ask for explanations and a revised budget to be included. Thank you for your indulgence.

It is hoped that our proposed change to the scope of the project can extend the project through 2024. Please find the following explanations & an attached budget.

Our original budget contained categories for

1. Transportation – weekly taxiing tutors from UKZN to Mariannridge School.
2. Personnel – payment of stipends to Tutors
3. Equipment – Books (ZAR 90,000) & Computer Lab establishment (**ZAR 155,558**)
4. Operations – Internet access for Computer Lab (**ZAR 6000**)

By extending the length of the project, we need to adjust the totals in each existing category in the original budget. Additionally, given that setting up the Computer Lab for this project is no longer feasible (as explained in our previous email), we would like to re-allocate the total funds of ZAR 166,558 (**ZAR 155,558+6000**) to other aspects of the project.

This project has been very successful so far and enabled many young students to improve their math skills so further education is possible. This has increased their economic opportunities and improved the economic future of their communities. A revised budget to adjust our costs and reallocate the Computer Lab funding will enable us to continue the program through 2024. Our original budget was designed for project completion at the end of 2023.

With the revised budget, we would like to add a new category:

1. Category “Supplies”, add sub-category “Tutor Appreciation,” which would allow us to charge for the refreshments for the tutors during the breaks and the end of the year celebration including T-shirts. The tutors work extremely diligently giving up their free time on Saturdays to travel and deliver mathematical instruction to the Mariannridge students from 8:30am to after 12 noon not including their travel time for the whole school year. We feel strongly that expressing our appreciation for these young tutors has shown to be critical to the sustainable continuation of the project. *These expenses were not included in the original grant budget.*

We would like to add 2 sub-categories:

1. Under “Personnel”, add “Staff Stipends”, to charge for stipends for 2-3 school staff members who coordinate arranging and cleaning the classrooms and help with the supervision of the learners. These were expenditures that turned out to be necessary to delivering the project that we had not anticipated. School Staff personnel who had

signed on to this project left the school and were replaced by others who were unwilling to participate without some remuneration. The presence of school staff is indispensable in ensuring the safety and discipline of the learners. Likewise the school insisted that remuneration be provided to the cleaners of the classrooms. *These expenses were not included in the original grant budget.*

2. Under "Operations", to account for "Bank Charges", as this is an expense that cannot be avoided. When we prepared the original budget in mid-2022, we were not aware that in South Africa having a no-frills current account even for a non-profit was not an option. We incorrectly extrapolated from experience in the US and Europe. South African bank charges are higher. *These expenses were not included in the original grant budget.*

These three adjustments are necessary for us if we are able to include the costs you question that have already been charged but were not stated in the original budget in Oct 2022, and to reallocate the Computer Lab expenses and bring this project to a successful conclusion at the end of 2024.

Our revised budget has been adjusted with a view toward closing out the Global Grant by the end of 2024. There has been considerable interest in this project and other schools are keen to include their students too. We are hoping that the remaining Global Grant funding together with local funding may continue to support our project to the end of 2024. For the future, we are seeking additional South African funding, either from the corporate section or from private charitable foundations. We thus believe that this Rotary Global Grant has jump-started an initiative that can be copied in other schools in South Africa, provided a model that others can follow, and that Rotary should be proud to have served this population so well.

If you feel that this revised proposal is reasonable and can be approved by TRF, we can proceed to revise our 2023 interim report accordingly, for which you have given us a deadline of 30 June, 2024. If you would like to discuss more or would like to request further information, please let us know.

We plan to resume tutoring on 20 July, 2024 and thus are eager to converge on an agreement on a revised budget ideally by the beginning of July.

We look forward to hearing from you as to how you would like us to proceed.

Sincerely,



Martin Bucher, PP, Rotary Club of Durban Umhlatuzana, South Africa



Alison Pannell, PP, Rotary Club of Los Alamos, New Mexico, USA

Encl: Spreadsheet with proposed modified budget