

## **Grilled Cheese for All**

By: Kaitlyn Colyer

### **Team Members:**

Kaitlyn Colyer 2

Kaitlyn Colyer 3

**Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

### ***Grant Proposal Summary:***

This project will help Kaitlyn Colyer purchase materials for grilled cheese sandwiches for the entire BLI Staff to hand out in a socially distant fashion after an all PA meeting. Kaitlyn will use the funds to go to the store, purchase all of the necessary ingredients- including vegan cheese and gluten-free bread- to make approximately 10-12 delicious sandwiches.

### ***Grant Proposal Background:***

I believe that this project is important to the BLI community, as the BLI staff has been working diligently throughout the COVID-19 pandemic to bring the student body engaging leadership content and exercises. Furthermore, the Pro Staff works year-round to help the Program Assistants grow as leaders and human beings. Given the current environment surrounding COVID-19 and the unrest we are experiencing as a nation, I think it would be calming to celebrate our small corner of peace with some grilled cheese sandwiches. Even without the social pressures and a global pandemic, it is difficult to deny that they have a tough job keeping us in line!

### ***Grant Proposal Description & Goals***

If I were to be granted the funding, I would use it to go to a local grocery store and purchase the necessary materials for approximately 15 grilled cheese sandwiches. Before purchasing any ingredients, however, I would like to release a poll to the BLI staff members and see if there are any food allergies or dietary restrictions. If so, I could factor those into my list. Next, I will spend one Friday morning making the grilled cheese sandwiches in my apartment kitchen. I am a very clean person, so I think that this is a safe method of food preparation. I will then hang around at the steps of Weiser Hall on that Friday and wait for members of the staff who are able to come pick up the sandwiches I have made for them.

My goal is to bring a smile to the BLI community and provide them with a free snack to get them through the rest of the day. I know I will have achieved this goal when I see the enthusiastic looks of people who have just received a grilled cheese sandwich that was made with care from a friend.

### ***BLI Habits Integration***

- **Start Where You Are:** There are a million things I wish I could do for the BLI staff members who have supported me and countless other LSA students throughout my two years here at Michigan. However, there is not a lot I can do within my power. Therefore, I'm cultivating this skill by starting with an act of leadership I know is within my reach.
- **Work to Learn:** I have never truly created a grilled cheese sandwich by myself, even though I have consumed many in my life. I've had several moms and friends make them for me, but I've never ventured into that realm. I hope that I can learn a lot about the grilled cheese making process while I am completing this small project.
- **Expect Challenge:** Although I have great intentions, I am not known for my cooking ability. I will need to prepare for the worst kitchen mishaps, which has led me to suggest that I buy more bread and cheese than one would need for 15 sandwiches. This will

prepare me for any issues that may come, and I will be able to confidently deal with them.

- Pause and Reflect: Much of my day now consists of constantly looking at social media, working, or doing homework, and there aren't many activities that I do purely for my own enjoyment anymore. When I do cook, I am able to take a moment and relax and think about things in a clearer way. I hope that by cooking for my friends, I am able to take some of those moments and reflect on my current situation and experience.

***Grant Proposal Step-by-Step Plan and Goal Accountability***

*Step One:* Send out a Google Form during a staff meeting to gauge dietary restrictions and allergies.

*Step Two:* Go to the store the following Thursday evening and purchase the supplies for grilled cheese, accommodating for the various food intolerances and allergies.

*Step Three:* Wake up on Friday morning, attend the staff meeting, and remind people that I will be outside Weiser Hall at approximately 1PM that day.

*Step Four:* Make sandwiches and carefully wrap them so they can stay warm. I will place them in a Postmates style bag.

*Step Five:* Set up on one of the benches and wait for people to come and get their sandwiches. Prior arrangements can be made for those who want their sandwich dropped off.

My goal will be reached when I a.) have delivered all of the sandwiches to their respective owners, and b.) can hear and see their reaction and understand if the action has brightened their day.

***Grant Proposal Timeline:***

At the staff meeting following the granting of funds, I would tell the staff members and ask them to fill out the form. The following Thursday would be my shopping day, and I would make the sandwiches the next day after the staff meeting. The total cost that I am requesting from the BLI is \$23.98. The only part of the project that will require funding is the ingredient cost.

***Budget Table***

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>QUANTITY</b>	<b>COST</b>
Butter	1 small container	\$2.99
Sourdough Bread	20 slices = 2 packages	\$3.29 x 2 = \$6.58
Cheddar Cheese Slices	20 slices= 2 packages	\$1.99 x 2 = \$3.98
Vegan Cheese Slices	10 slices = 1 package	\$4.99
Gluten Free Bread	10 slices = 1 package	\$5.39

**TOTAL COST: \$23.98**

**Reflection:** I plan on taking the time during my creation of these sandwiches to reflect on why I joined the BLI. I hope that my act of kindness to the community allows me to better grow within the BLI space and continue getting the most of my time here. I plan to reflect by also asking the BLI staff members what other things they might appreciate from other staff members and hope that this increases the staff's participation in random acts of kindness throughout the pandemic. I hope this also gives me a better insight into my own relationship with the other staff members, and I will be reflecting on that, as well.

**NOTES:**

- The grant proposal summary, what the project will entail in detail, and step-by-step plan bled into each other a little bit.
  - o I wonder how I can talk to people about how to distinguish these.
- The step by step and timeline questions might get some crossover as well.