

**Ferris State University  
Faculty and Staff Diversity Mini-Grant Application**

**I. Identification**

Name of Primary Applicant: Mary Forintos

Members of Team: Ferris State University students who are secondary and elementary pre-service mathematics teachers

Department or Unit: Mathematics

Campus Address: ASC 2038

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**II. Event Title**

**Baldwin After-School Mathematics Tutoring Program**

III. Specific core value, strategic initiative, or goal related to diversity that the event will address.

This program is a perfect fit with the Bridging Campus Classrooms//Connecting Diverse Students Initiative, only the link will be face-to-face rather than web-based. It links Ferris faculty and Ferris students with students from Baldwin High School and Elementary School. The Baldwin School District has a very racially and ethnically diverse student population, and this program has in the past introduced Ferris students, and conversely Baldwin students, with perspectives and experiences that are different from their own.

It also continues a relationship that Ferris has with the Baldwin Schools, and continues a program that was funded through grants from the Gerber Foundation and through the School of Education last year.

**IV. Abstract**

The Baldwin After-School Tutoring Program links Ferris students who are pre-service mathematics teachers with Baldwin elementary and high school students who need assistance with their study of mathematics. It provides both one-on-one tutoring and small group instruction to Baldwin students studying Pre-Algebra, Algebra, Geometry, or Pre-Calculus. The after-school program is held from 3:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. two days per week, and typically serves ten to twelve Baldwin students per session.

Ferris students who participate are paid \$24 per two-hour session. Their stipend is funded through a grant administered by Faith Jones, principal of Baldwin High School

**V. Event Narrative:**

This program furthers Ferris' commitment to diversity by serving the very diverse student population in the Baldwin School District, as well as providing Ferris students with the experience of working with that population.

Baldwin is a very poor, rural, racially diverse school district in Lake County, MI. The median family income in the district is \$26, 677. Eighty-five percent of high school students qualify for the free lunch program. Of the 203 students in the high school, thirty-eight percent are black, and four percent are Hispanic. Most of these students have never had the opportunity to interact with a college student. Conversely, most of the Ferris students who tutor in the program have never had the opportunity to interact with students from a poor, rural school. From my experience working in this program last year, I know that it is a positive learning experience for both groups of students.

The goal of the tutoring program is three-fold:

- To provide direct assistance and instruction in mathematics to Baldwin High school students
- To provide Baldwin High School students with positive role models
- To provide Ferris pre-service teachers tutoring experience with a diverse group of students

It also provides an opportunity for members of the Ferris community to be of service to the greater community, creating a positive relationship with the Baldwin School District.

This program targets Baldwin High School students who are having difficulty with mathematics by providing one-to-one and small group instruction to those students. Generally about ten to twelve students are served during each session.

The sessions will run from January 26, 2009 until April 30, 2009. Because of both our spring break and theirs, there are twelve weeks of tutoring during the semester. Tutoring sessions are held on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:00-5:00 p.m. With travel time, Ferris students make a time commitment, for one or both days, from 2:15 p.m. until 5:45 p.m., for the entire semester. I provide transportation for the Ferris students from campus to Baldwin High School and back.

**Budget:**

<b>Mileage Expense</b>	<b>\$870</b>
12 weeks, twice a week, 62 miles round-trip 1488 miles total	
<b>Stipend for Faculty Coordinator</b>	<b>\$2880</b>
72 hours @ \$40/hr (no benefits)	
<b>Total Request</b>	<b>\$3750</b>

Applicants' Signatures:

*Mary Fountas*

Submission Date: 1/22/09