Statement of Need

Your Statement of Need should appeal to both the head (data and statistics) as well as the heart (emotional appeal). For the "heart" aspect of your statement, find some quotes which support your ideas for the nonprofit's mission. Most foundations will require a Statement of Need for a grant request.

An example of elements for a Statement of Need (for a Lyme Disease Support Group)

X% of Mainers have, had or will have Lyme Disease.

Climate change is allowing ticks to proliferate. New varieties of Lyme are appearing.

Medical resources exist but there's no support group in ME for those currently suffering from Lyme or who have had Lyme and are living with the consequences.

Data from other support groups (cancer survivors for example) demonstrate that support groups do help when people know they are not alone. Sharing stories and experiences works.

Testimonial from Joe Smith: "As a cancer survivor I can't speak highly enough about how my support group got me through the aftermath of chemo."

Consequences of Lyme infection can last for years. CDC Maine reports that ____ number of people in Maine currently can have residual effects of the disease for up to _____ years.

To enjoy the outdoors, it's critical for people to know how to prepare themselves against ticks.

An example of elements for a Statement of Need (for an Animal Training Center)

The number of people who might benefit from having a service animal is _____. Source DHHS.

Service animals can work with a variety of people with a variety of different needs. Some people need emotional support; others need a full range of support in dealing with daily tasks. Service animals can be trained for a wide range of abilities.

Currently there exist _____ number of service animal training centers in ME but those centers are almost all focused on a single client base (such as veterans or vision impaired) and usually only deal with one type of animal (typically dogs or horses).

Testimonial from Susan Brown: "Following my stroke, I was able to find a service animal to help me with such seemingly normal and daily tasks like opening doors and drawers. Poochie is a life saver and not

only helps me with tasks but also provides much needed companionship.

The number of people in ME currently waiting in line for a service animal is _____.

Where do you find qualitative and quantitative data for your statement of need?

Portland Public Library databases: Contact Myles Robert, 207-871-1700 X725; reference@portlib.org

Online research sites such as Google