

Good morning.

I have a favor to ask.

I'm a one-year resident of Meadows on Sycamore, an assisted living center in Sioux Falls. My neighbors here have varying, fascinating stories. They also have considerable time on their hands.

It's occurred to me that an oral histories project would give them something meaningful to do. It would also give a readership a window on to life in this area over the years.

The project would be a multi-month endeavor. I would entail taped and transcribed interviews, ultimately collected in book form, accompanied by professional photographs. The interviews could be conducted by carefully-chosen local high school students who'd receive academic credit and/or small stipends for their efforts. The interviewees, too, would each receive \$25 for participating.

The book ultimately would be distributed at libraries and other venues to be determined.

I have a list of area foundations who may provide financial support for this. However, all require that applicants have nonprofit status. Our complex isn't nonprofit. With this in mind, I approached a longtime friend, a retired attorney, who advised us to find an existing nonprofit and ask that we be tucked under their wing.

Dr. Sam Herley, curator of the South Dakota Oral Histories Center, has been kind enough to suggest that we reach out to you for these purposes.

May we?

(I've attached background matter to give you some sense of what I do.)

Thank you very much for whatever help you can provide. If I can answer any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

All best,

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