PROPOSAL 23
To: Strategic Planning Council
   c/o MJ Brukardt, Office of the President
   mbrukardt@mail.ewu.edu
From: Lead- Sue M. Wright, Ph.D., Professor of Sociology.
      Co-lead- Virginia Hinch, Internship Program/Students Offering Service.
Date: November 28, 2005
Re: Academic Affairs Strategic Planning Grant Proposal- The Cheney Hangout

The Cheney Hangout

Lead: Sue M. Wright, Ph.D., Professor of Sociology

Co-lead: Virginia Hinch, Internship Program/Students Offering Service, Coordinator

Marilyn Nelson, Cheney Hangout Coordinator
During the 2004/2005 academic year, an Eastern Washington University Children’s Studies class conducted a needs assessment that revealed a high priority need for a youth center for the communities of Cheney and West Plains. Later the same year, a Sociology of Children’s class, taught by Sue M. Wright, Ph.D., took on the task of creating a youth center as part of a learning service project. Unlike many youth programs offered through the public schools, the students of Dr. Wright’s class wanted to apply models and information they had learned during the Sociology of Children’s class. The visualized youth center would allow the children to have primary voice in decision making, receive homework tutoring by EWU students, engage in fun and educational activities and socialize in a safe, stable, life-enriching environment during after-school hours. The youth program would provide constant supervision by one paid staff member and numerous work-study students, specifically from the Children’s Studies Department at EWU. Work-study students from the Children’s Studies Program would bring specific training and education to the center, maximizing the success of the students, while benefiting both the children and the student volunteers from other departments.

In collaboration with EWU, The Cheney Hangout opened its doors in March 2005 in a donated portion of Brewster Hall. By the summer of 2005, 20-25 kids were utilizing the youth center each month. Marilyn Nelson, a Children’s Studies major, became the full-time volunteer supervisor of the youth center. She is currently volunteering and coordinating the program and completed her internship at The Hangout. There are a number of student volunteers, primarily from the Children’s Studies department, offering their time and knowledge.

Attendance assessment has shown steady increase of youth at the Hangout. With the increase of children and the limited space in Brewster Hall, the City of Cheney decided to donate a portion of The Wren Pierson Community Center to the Cheney Hangout and proposed up to $100,000.00 for capital improvements of the space. Along with monies from the city, a proposal has been sent requesting funding from the Community Development Block Grant in the sum of $20,000.00. This funding will go toward improving the donated space in The Wren Pierson Community Center. At the present time, the space houses maintenance equipment for the City of Cheney. Renovation of the space will include new flooring, walls, energy-efficient windows, an office, an ADA restroom, a raised stage area for entertainment, and a quiet tutoring area. Improvements are expected to begin in 2006 and the communities of Cheney and West Plains will have a new, spacious youth center.
In alignment with Eastern’s Academic Strategic Planning goals and the priorities identified by the President’s Cabinet, The Cheney Hangout is requesting $12,500.00. The Hangout specifically contributes to Goal I and Goal III of The Academic Strategic Plan. The Cheney Hangout provides hands-on training opportunity to maximize success for the students of EWU, as well as provides the staff and faculty of EWU the opportunity to engage in community service projects while interacting with colleagues, students, and the community. The Hangout allows a unique partnership between the community members and the youth of Cheney. Currently, collaboration on the Cheney Hangout combines efforts from each of the following organizations:

- The City of Cheney- Paul Schmidt, City Administrator
- Cheney Middle School- Mike Stark, Principal
- Safe Schools, After School Program- Scott Ziemann, Coordinator
- Cheney Parks and Recreation- Paul Simmons, Director
- Pathways to Progress- Charlie Dotson, Executive Director
- Eastern Washington University, Internship Program/Students Offering Service-Virginia Hinch, Coordinator
- Eastern Washington University, Children’s Studies Department- Sue M. Wright, Ph.D., Professor of Sociology

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been written and signed by Eastern Washington University and Pathways to Progress. It is currently awaiting signatures by The City of Cheney and the Cheney School District. With the MOU, the Cheney Hangout will continue long-term sustainability and interaction between each of the previously mentioned organizations. Continued sustainability will also be possible with work-study funding and external grant funding for additional staff members. The Cheney Hangout provides the youth a safe, stable, life-enriching environment during after-school hours. The Hangout provides students of EWU necessary hands-on training, but has also provided an excellent opportunity for the City of Cheney, community members, EWU, Pathways to Progress, Cheney Parks and Recreation, and the Cheney School District to collaborate in a unique environment while benefiting the youth of Cheney and West Plains.
## Proposed Budget/Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position/Item/Activity</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Coordinator</td>
<td>$10.00/hour x 160 hrs/mo Beginning January 2006</td>
<td>$4800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children’s Studies Intern</td>
<td>Stipend $733.00 per quarter Beginning January 2006</td>
<td>$2,200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part-time youth supervisor</td>
<td>$8.50/hour x 100 hrs/mo Beginning January 2006</td>
<td>$2,250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leadership Training for youth (Jeff Stafford)</td>
<td>Leadership training manuals for 9-13 year olds January-February 2006</td>
<td>$800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laptop for Cheney Hangout Coordinator</td>
<td>January 2006</td>
<td>$2218.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$12,268.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>