


Not everything that sounds too good to be true is spam


When I saw the email, I nearly deleted it. It claimed to be from an investment banking firm. It said they were taking applications for their social responsibility program. This program involves donating their staff time to help a nonprofit implement a technology project.

We just happen to have a technology project that we could really use help from tech professionals with experience in this type of project. This company not only has a program to help, they have implemented similar solutions for other non-profits! **How perfect is that?** They do still need to accept our application. **Surely they will want to help us right?**



I was intimidated by the responsibility of completing the application and representing SIL*. I reviewed our website and 2019 annual report for wording help. I learned if you'd like to be inspired about the work of your non-profit, you should complete an application about why a company should invest in you... I talked about:

- what we do: work with communities to develop language solutions that **expand possibilities for a better life...**
- a founding principle: that communities should be able to pursue their social, cultural, political, economic, and spiritual goals **without sacrificing their ethnolinguistic identity...**
- that we do what we do because **all people are created in the image of God** and languages and cultures are part of the richness of God's creation...
- how we work with local communities....
- and also partner with the agencies who support them, governments and universities, ...
- how we're excited at the growing interest in the needs and goals of minority language communities...

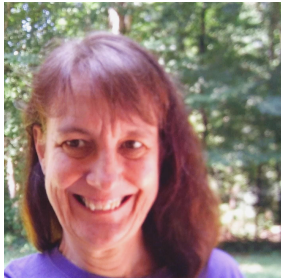


Our set of partnerships include **those who share our desire for all people to have access to Scripture** in their own languages and others who do not yet share our Christian faith but share a passion to see people transformed.

That transformation we all long for comes from the good news of hope and reconciliation through Jesus. Our deep desire is that **all would come to have life and to have it more abundantly** (John 10:10). For SIL, it's important to us that our services are available without regard to religious belief, political ideology, gender, race or ethnic background.

Thanks for praying

- that people we partner with **would experience God's love in and through us.**
- that they would **come to know Jesus as the only hope** and grow in their knowledge of him.
- for **favor with this application** and **success in this and other technology projects** we've scheduled for 2021.
- for **colleagues who are making tentative plans to return** to the places they work where it's possible to do so. Pray for **wisdom and safety** for them.
- for a **new staff member starting July 20**, a staff member who will be responsible for this technology project. He probably would like the help that will come if our application is accepted. Pray for his onboarding and orientation process to be smooth and that he will **build relationships quickly.**



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“Preferred for the Wycliffe ministry of Sheryl Howe”

* Wycliffe “seconds” its missionaries to work with many organizations involved in Bible translation. SIL, where I work, is the largest recipient of staff from Wycliffe. SIL is an academic linguistic organization involved in Bible translation and Scripture Engagement, Language Development Services, and other Foundational Language services like translation and literacy software and language research.