



# Cascades Science Center "Quantum Kids!"

INSPIRING KIDS TO DEVELOP A PASSION FOR SCIENCE THROUGH FUN AND INTERACTIVE EXPERIMENTS

The **Cascades Science Center Foundation (CSCF)** is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, incorporated in 2006 in the state of Washington, with the goal of inspiring kids to develop their natural passion for science. The foundation is in the early stages of developing and funding science environment in East King County, Washington, which will be branded **Cascades Science Center**.

## THE NEED

The scientific innovation and prowess of the United States is starting to decline.

- Fewer US students are enrolling in higher education in the sciences
- There has been a decrease in the number of science related PhD's and applications for science related patents by US citizens
- Limited hours spread across other subjects limit schools' ability to devote quality time to science
- Washington companies need a science-educated workforce to maintain their competitive advantage

## THE SOLUTION

The CSCF will build and maintain a physical environment dedicated to scientific discovery, incorporating innovative design, experimental labs, and interactive group activities. In addition, the CSCF will develop:

- Distributed learning centers in individual school districts
- Mobile "Science in a Box" with hands-on experiments
- After school programs and on-site participation at schools
- Virtual space for continued collaboration

## ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION

The CSCF is a grassroots movement that is guided by a passion for science education as a means to improve our community, invest in our children's futures and make the world a better place through scientific innovation. CSCF has the following main areas of focus:

- Develop strong partnerships with local school districts, public/private foundations and the Puget Sound community
- Develop content in collaboration with aforementioned partners
- Identify areas to raise capital and sustain the foundation for future

## GOALS AND RESULTS

The CSCF believes that success should be measured by results in real world applications and not just test scores alone. One example metric would include an annual increase in the number of high school students electing to take upper level science courses.

## THE MISSION

Build a science environment in the state of Washington that will inspire and develop a passion for science, technology, engineering and mathematics in elementary school aged kids.

## FINANCING SOUGHT

The CSCF is in its formative period. It is concurrently developing resources through volunteers and preliminary fundraising. Our immediate goal is to obtain **\$500K** for 2010 to hire an executive director and to develop and implement a capital campaign.

## MANAGEMENT TEAM

The CSCF board consists of up and coming leaders in the community who provide knowledge and skills from a broad spectrum of disciplines, including engineering, economics, finance, medicine, architecture and information technology.

## CONTACT

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Note: The comprehensive case statement and business plan is available upon request.