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## Letter from Mildred Persinger to Elinor Barber, October 22, 1978

Mildred Emory Persinger

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INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S  
TRIBUNE CENTRE, INC.

support resource.. 345 E. 46 St.  
Room 815  
New York  
N.Y. 10017  
(212) 687-0728

22 October, 1978

Dr. Elinor Barber  
The Ford Foundation  
320 E. 43 Street  
New York, N.Y. 10017

Dear Elinor,

I want to thank you for last Friday's telephone call regarding the 1978 Tribune Centre project proposal I had sent over for your perusal. Your continuing interest and support of our activities is very much appreciated here.

X Although we remain confident that we will eventually receive funding, and have heard that \$10,000 will be coming our way within the next few weeks, the time involved in lengthy deliberations of the agencies we have contacted is forcing us to turn down requests for assistance from regional groups involved in many worthwhile projects. Naturally we are making every effort to meet the 1978-79 budget in order to maintain the momentum which has been generated.

I realize the Foundation has focused much of its attention on research-oriented projects and thus the Tribune Centre's communications component may not appear, at first glance, within the present scope of funding priorities. I am sure there is interest, at the same time, in making research findings useful to the people actively engaged in projects in the field. In this respect, the Tribune Centre can be seen as playing a needed role. The country profile project we are presently undertaking illustrates a user-oriented approach to research.

Since this research-linkage point via Tribune communications may not be fully understood, I am wondering whether you think a few of your colleagues might be willing to discuss points at which we impinge on the Foundation's established program. I mention this because of the possibility of being labelled solely on the basis of one aspect of the Centre's work, such as Resource Books, which do not, in fact, reflect the full range of the program we are engaged in.

Enclosed is a copy of a note from the most recent TRANET Appropriate Technology Newsletter commenting on our Newsletter #7, which will bring more requests for this issue, now out of print. You might also be in-

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terested in knowing that we received a request from Santiago Friedmann, Ford Foundation Central American Office in Mexico, for copies of Newsletter #7 to be sent to some 35 colleagues in various development agencies in Central America. Ford is not the only agency requesting it. In addition to the original distribution of 3500, more than 500 have been ordered, giving the Centre a postage item in the red.

Such a response is encouraging, however, particularly as requests come not solely from women's organizations, but from organizations seeking to integrate women into their mainstream development efforts. Molly Mayo, in connection with her work with the Centre for Population Activities, for example, has asked to bring a group of 35 from 22 countries here for a workshop at the end of this week.

Next week I have to be away on urgent family business, but if you have any more thoughts to share, you can be sure the rest of the team will be happy to hear them. And again, many thanks.

Yours,

Mildred Persinger