## ElderCARE@ChristChurch

410 Grand Avenue, Waukegan, IL 60085

January 20, 2011

RECEIVED

Phone: 847-406-4683

JAN 2 4 2011

Planning, Building & Development Dept.

Gerald Dietz Lake County Community Development Division 500 W. Winchester Road Libertyville, IL 60048

Dear Mr. Dietz:

ElderCARE is disappointed to learn that its proposal to receive \$25,000 from the Lake County CDBG program in the category of Public Service funding did not receive an initial positive recommendation. It is unfortunate that we will not have this financial support as we serve, at no charge, some of Lake County's most vulnerable residents. These are frail homebound elders. They are no longer able to drive and have very limited financial and personal resources.

The demand for our services continues to be strong. For each of the last three years, our volunteers have provided over 1,000 escorted round trips to medical appointments. The great majority of those we serve tell us that our volunteers are their only reasonable means of getting to medical appointments. For older adults with chronic illnesses, regular medical follow up is often the key to continuing to live independently.

While we are disappointed at the outcome, we thank you and the other members of the Community Development Commission for taking the time to review our application. Comments to help us improve our application or our services would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jill A. Grubbs

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Director

May Eller Soulis Mary Ellen Saunders

Development Coordinator 

PAGE

## Maristella

## Ministry to Homeless Women and Children



January 21, 2011

Dear Joel Williams and the Board of Commissioners,

We thank you for allowing us to talk to the CDC on January 19<sup>th</sup>. It was a very interesting meeting. I was so surprised to see how many agencies were denied. The way it was presented to us made me feel we were the only agency denied. I feel badly that we were denied but to deny the agency working with the Jail is bad news. I hope you are going to change your mind about funding and go with some of the members of the CDC who said that you need to spread the money around.

With financial assistance from you we will be able to negotiate rent payment with our landlord. Without funding we will be in the same crowded area we are presently in. You can make a difference.

Maristella is inviting you to come to see our offices at your leisure. We are open from 9:30 to 2:30 from Monday to Friday. If you cannot make these times I will be happy to come on a Saturday to visit with you. If you could come on a Tuesday or Thursday in February our landlord, Don Watson, will be back from his vacation and I am sure he will be happy to show you the rest of the building. Mr. Watson has been very good to us and we look forward to negotiating rent for the entire floor. Can you have it in your heart to change your mind and give us at least some of the grant we requested.

As a person with Administrative experience I would like to make two suggestions for next year:

1010 North Milwaukee Avenue \* Libertyville, Illinois 60048
Phone (847) 367-5360 \* Facsimile (847) 680-4094 \* E-Mail: Maristella98@sbcglobal.net

- 1. Persons assigned to a certain committee should make an appointment to visit the organization so that they could better acquaint themselves with the organization.
- 2. Use a LIQUERT scale to judge the agency. In case you are not familiar with this scale let me explain. It is very simple and easy to understand and to make good evaluations. Ex. Make a page that looks like this:

13	45	67	78
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Give directions: 1 is the lowest; 8 the highest. Circle one number for each question on the grant. You could see at a glance then how the person feels about the question. The four people should then sit down with the grant writer to talk about all low points on the 5cale and see if there is any way they may want to make a change. This is only an option. But looking at a simple scale makes the job much easier and more honest.

I am sure the task as given to the committees was too complicated this year. I cannot image someone judging our organization without any personal contact or without knowing homelessness. This is not a good thing. Too many people are going to be hurt by the process as it is. I would be happy to help out with this process if help is needed.

Please also consider giving funds to the Jail Organization.

Thank you and God bless you,

Sincerely,

Frances Forys,

Director of Maristella

Administrative, Training, & Volunteer Resource Center CASA Lake County, Inc. 1020 Milwaukee Avenue, Suite 312 Deerfield, IL 60015 847.808.9154 847.808.9328 (fax)



Courthouse Office: CASA Lake County, Inc. Robert Depke Juvenile Justice Center 24647 Milwaukee Avenue Vernon Hills, IL 60061

847.377.7975

847.634.6261 (fax)

FEB 0 1 2011

Planning, Building & Development Dept.

January 28, 2011

Mr. Joel Williams Lake County Department of Planning, Building and Development, Community Development Division 18 North County Street – 6th Floor **CDBG** Waukegan, IL 60085

Dear Mr. Williams and Members of the Community Development Commission,

CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) Lake County commends the Community Development Commission on their investment in our children. Trained CASA volunteers work in collaboration with all stakeholders to ensure the stability and security of our children.

In 2010, over 2,000 children in Lake County suffered physical, psychological or sexual abuse or neglect or abandonment - all while in the care of their parents. Many of these children enter the juvenile court system and then became entangled in a bureaucracy where, unfortunately, they cannot receive the individual attention they deserve and then often experience further abuse at the hands of the system. CASA volunteers, who are appointed by the court, are often the only reliable, constant presence in many of these children's lives, and the only advocates speaking solely on their behalf throughout the legal process.

In 2010, 245 CASA volunteers worked to ensure children and parents had access to services required with the initial goal of reunification—stabilizing the family. Fully trained volunteers advocated for the health, safety, and best interests of 515 abused and neglected children in Lake County, Illinois. Fortunately with the help of our advocacy, 98 of these children returned to safe and permanent homes. However, nearly 250 children were left to navigate the system without an advocate by their side. This year we plan to train 50 to 60 new volunteers to advocate for 80 to 125 additional children. Our ability to close the gap is a challenge we are now poised to meet with your partnership.

On behalf of CASA and the children we serve, thank you for giving our children the opportunity to not merely survive, but rather to thrive. With strong advocacy that ensures the proper remedial therapy, the cycle of violence will not follow these children into adulthood. Thank you for recommending CASA Lake County for \$32,000 in support of our children.

With appreciation

Terri Z. Greenberg **Executive Director** 





Your life. Our commitment.

February 2, 2011

Mr. Gerald Dietz, Chairman Community Development Commission Lake County Development Division 500 West Winchester Road Unit 101 Libertyville, IL 60048 RECEIVED
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Planning, Cultding & Development for the state of the state of

Dear Mr. Dietz:

As a board member of Mano a Mano, I am writing to express my disappointment that Mano a Mano was not recommended for funding in the 2011 Annual Action Plan. Mano a Mano serves over 3,500 of the poorest of Lake County's 50,000 residents, who speak English less than very well. The organization provides comprehensive case management and information and referral services to ensure low- and moderate income individuals and families with limited English proficiency that are in need of community services have the ability to access them. Through its many programs and services, it also encourages collaboration between organizations to provide assistance to those it assists.

One of my fellow board members, Jeff Prickett, principal of Murphy Elementary School in Round Lake Park recently commented, "Mano a Mano makes a tremendous difference...I've been referring families for years...a child learns better when they are not worried about where they will live tomorrow or some legal issue plaguing their parents..." In addition, after reading Mano a Mano's 2009/2010 annual report, Dr. Ed Silverman, chief of the Bureau of Refugee & Immigrant Services at the Illinois Department of Human Services, sent an email to Carolina Duque, Mano a Mano's executive director, stating: "Thank you for sharing the Report... I could never say enough about how gratifying it is to support your efforts. You, the staff, and Board deserve the highest of praise for the extraordinary growth of the agency, and the fine services you bring to the community. Best wishes for continuing success in 2011."

Surely, the Public Services sub-committee of the Community Development Commission faced many difficult funding decisions. However, I am writing to affirm my support of the organization and would encourage members of the Community Development Commission to learn more about Mano a Mano and the great difference in makes in Lake County.

Singerely,

ohn H. (Hal) Coxon

Vice President Sales & Marketing

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