

Administrative, Training,  
& Volunteer Resource Center  
CASA Lake County, Inc.  
700 Forest Edge Drive  
Vernon Hills, IL 60061  
847.383.6260  
847.383.6261 (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)



January 29, 2013

Lake County CDBG  
18 N. County Street  
Waukegan, IL 60085

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff, advocates, and most of all, the abused and neglected children to whom we provide services, I would like to thank you for your grant of \$6000 in support of CASA.

By supporting the work of CASA, you are helping to ensure that the most vulnerable members of our community, abused and neglected children, are placed in appropriate homes, receive the services they need to thrive, and attain permanency.

Last year alone, 527 abused and neglected children, who, through no fault of their own found themselves lost in the juvenile court system, received advocacy services from our team of dedicated, committed Court Appointed Special Advocates.

Unfortunately, there are still more children waiting for our help. It is our goal to be able to provide a powerful voice in court for every abused and neglected child in Lake County. Support from you enables us to recruit and train new volunteers, and supervise all of our volunteer advocates and we are extremely grateful.

Sincerely,

Terri Z. Greenberg  
Executive Director

**No goods or services were received**



*A Member of the National Court Appointed Special Advocate Association*

February 5, 2013



Ray Rose, Chairman,  
Community Development Commission  
Lake County Community Development Division  
500 W. Winchester Road Unit 101  
Libertyville, IL 60048

Mr. Rose,  
I am writing in support of the 2013 CDBG Annual Action Plan Draft, which gives an initial positive recommendation to fund ElderCARE@ChristChurch.

ElderCARE makes a positive difference in the lives of many older adults who live in northern Lake County. Their volunteers are part of what make Lake County a good place to grow old. I personally have referred clients, contacts, etc., to Mary Ellen and Jill, and **have nothing but appreciation for them and the ElderCare Program.**

Their direct services are provided FREE of charge. This funding will play an important role in keeping its services available to the low-income elders, who so greatly need them.

Thank you again for the initial positive funding recommendation, which I strongly support becoming fully approved and final.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gerald P. Crews".

Gerald P. Crews  
4227 Fieldstone Dr., Gurnee, IL 60031

Copy: Mary Ellen Saunders & Jill Grubbs  
ElderCARE Program –Christ Church 410 Grand Ave., Waukegan, IL 60085

**GEORGE D. MERRILL, JR**  
**1611 Wilton Ct**  
**Green Oaks, Illinois 60048-1579**



February 5, 2013

**Ray Rose, Chair, Community Development Commission**  
**Lake County Community Development Commission**  
**500 W. Winchester Rd, Unit 101**  
**Libertyville, IL 60048**

Dear Mr. Rose

I am writing in support of the 2013 CBDG Annual Action Plan Draft, which gives an initial positive recommendation to fund ElderCARE@ ChristChurch.

ElderCARE makes a positive difference in the lives of many older adults who reside in northern Lake County. I have been a volunteer for the past several years, and can personally attest to how much ElderCARE means to our clients. Most recently, I drove a lady to her doctor appointment, and she nearly cried she was so thankful for the service. She also told me that a cab ride to another doctor used to cost her \$60 roundtrip until she learned about ElderCARE.

Since all of ElderCARE direct services are provided FREE of charge, the funding will play an important role in keeping these services available to the low-income elders who so greatly need them.

Thank you again for the initial positive funding recommendation, which I strongly urge becoming fully approved and final.

George D Merrill

CC: Jill A. Grubbs  
Mary Ellen Saunders

February 5, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:



I am writing in support of the 2013 CDBG Annual Action Plan Draft, which gives an initial positive recommendation to fund ElderCARE@ChristChurch.

ElderCARE makes a positive difference in the lives of many older adults who live in northern Lake County. Their volunteers are part of what make Lake County a good place to grow old.

All of their direct services are provided FREE of charge. This funding will play an important role in keeping its services available to the low-income elders, who so greatly need them.

I am currently an ElderCARE volunteer myself. I have seen first hand what a difference it makes to elders to have someone they can count on to lend a helping hand. Many of them do not have anyone else to call upon for a ride or assistance shopping. I think I benefit even more than they do just by getting to know our warm, friendly seniors. I consider it a blessing to be able to help them.

Thank you again for the initial positive funding recommendation, which I strongly support becoming fully approved and final.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Nancy Blazs', is written below the word 'Sincerely,'.

# *ElderCARE@ChristChurch*

410 Grand Avenue, Waukegan, IL 60085

Phone: 847-406-4683

---

January 22, 2013

Ray Rose, Chairman  
Lake County Community Development Commission  
500 West Winchester Road Unit 101  
Libertyville, IL 60048

Dear Mr. Rose:

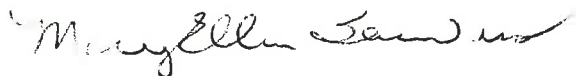
ElderCARE is pleased to learn that it has received an initial positive funding recommendation of \$16,250 from the Lake County CDBG Public Service funding. We are thankful for this financial help in serving the more mature residents of Lake County who are no longer able to drive and have very limited financial and personal resources.

The demand for our services remains strong both in terms of numbers of applicants and volume of services provided. In each of the last five years, we have added on average 66 new care receivers and provided over 1,000 escorted round trips to medical appointments. The great majority of those we serve tell us that we 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.

We understand that this is an initial recommendation and that actual amounts may vary depending on public comment and the actual federal allocation of funds to Lake County. However, we are thankful to have received an initial positive funding recommendation.

Thank you again for this good news!

Sincerely,



Mary Ellen Saunders

**There are no great acts of love, only small acts of great love. ~ Mother Teresa**



## Brief Summary of Care Receiver Evaluations 2012

### Care Receiver Evaluations

#### *Escorted Transportation to Medical Appointments – summer 2012 by phone*

- **94% indicated that they had no other reasonable way to get to medical appointments.**
- 98% indicated that this service helped them feel more connected with their health care providers. While simply having/keeping medical appointments is not associated with better health outcomes, having good relationships with healthcare providers is. Feeling more connected to their health care providers is a significant step towards developing a good relationship with their providers.
- **96.5% said this service contributed to their being able to live independently.**
- 100% were overall satisfied with the service.

#### *Grocery Shopping and Friendly Visitor – summer 2012 by phone*

- 100% indicated that these services helped them have a healthy diet and/or helped them feel better. For the great majority, our volunteers are their only means of getting groceries or of having a regular visitor/contact with a friend.
- Does this service contribute to your being able to live independently?
  - Have a Grocery Shopper – 100% said a resounding YES!
  - Receiving Friendly Visits – 100% said yes!

#### *A sampling of elders comments regarding the difference ElderCARE's services make in their life follows.*

##### Regarding Transportation:

- Comfortable rides, no wait to be picked up, people are wonderful. Was in a lot of pain, so comfort was important.
- Wonderful volunteers – would like to steal one!
- live alone I'm 93. It's a big help to know I can get to my doctors when I need to.
- Would have had to go to a nursing home.
- Money savings. Very prompt, never late or too early. The friendship & conversation is great.
- Feels so good to know someone takes you and waits for you. Very few family around, all gone. One son in WI, one in TX, one local but works crazy hours.
- Don't have to worry about being late. They are on time, sometimes make extra stops on way home. Really mean a lot to me, especially when I can't use public transportation to get to my doctors.
- Volunteers go in with me to see the doctor to take notes because I am so very hard of hearing.
- They take me, very nice, can talk to them. When something's not feeling right, they talk to me and are very comforting.
- Helped me manage. Confident that Mom could get to dialysis. (spoken by daughter of Spanish only speaking mom, who was working and caring for own children as well as her mom.)

##### Regarding Friendly Visitors:

- Connects me with outside world
- We tell each other our troubles...have friend to talk. (2 care receivers who provide each other phone reassurance).
- Walks with me. Family doesn't live close by so just having a visitor means a lot. Lives alone
- I wait for her to come, someone to talk to, a companion. Ask her advice. She will do little errands for me; it's great.
- I'm a 24/7 caregiver, so this gives me relief! (spoken by daughter)
- Couldn't be more satisfied. Would be climbing the walls without her visits.
- Very nice lady. Couldn't be better. Keeps me in touch with things, we discuss things, sometimes go on a walk.

##### Regarding Grocery Shopping:

- Life is so much easier...have so many health problems can't walk far... COPD, CHF, neuropathy.
- Daughter had major surgery and is unable to do it. Very helpful in many ways.
- Chance to get more fruit & vegetables. Bag gets heavy fast, so volunteer gets all my heavy stuff.
- Don't have to worry about running out of food. A pleasure knowing someone is there. Couldn't ask for a nicer person.
- Able to get groceries more frequently. Able to get fruits, cat food. Things that might not be relevant to some people mean a lot to me.
- ...BIG difference! My husband can't see; I'm in a wheelchair.

ElderCARE's volunteer services provide a safety net that helps Lake County's elders continue to live independently.

**Walley, Laura**

---

**From:** The Walcotts <pwalcott@sbcglobal.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 12, 2013 8:21 AM  
**To:** Community Development  
**Subject:** Elder Care of Waukegan

Hello

For more than four years, I have worked as a volunteer with ElderCare of Waukegan assisting elder people and have been able to see that they provide a valuable service to the older community. I am now writing in support of the 2013 CDBG Annual Action Plan Draft, which gives an initial positive recommendation to fund ElderCARE@ChristChurch.

ElderCARE makes a positive difference in the lives of many older adults who live in northern Lake County and the volunteers are part of what make Lake County a good place to grow old.

All of their direct services are provided FREE of charge. This funding will play an important role in keeping its services available to the low-income elders, who so greatly need them.

No doubt there are many good agencies in Lake County but Elder Care does provide very good services.

Thank you again for the initial positive funding recommendation, which I strongly support becoming fully approved and final.

Sincerely,

Fred Walcott

115 Sunset Place

Lake Bluff, Illinois

**Walley, Laura**

---

**From:** Suzanne Pavlus <shpavlus@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 06, 2013 1:13 PM  
**To:** Community Development  
**Subject:** Eldercare

Mr. Ray Rose,

Please confirm final funding for ElderCare@ Christ Church (2013 CDBG Annual Action Plan Draft).

As an ElderCare volunteer I have become aware of how important its services are to the low-income elderly--- especially those living alone--- of Lake County.

Sincerely,  
Suzanne H Pavlus  
Libertyville, IL



**Walley, Laura**

---

**From:** eldono@juno.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2013 1:50 PM  
**To:** Community Development  
**Subject:** Support of the 2013 CDBG Annual Action Plan Draft

Ray Rose, Chair, Community Development Commission Lake County Community Development Division  
500 W. Winchester Road Unit 101  
Libertyville, IL 60048  
[communitydevelopment@lakecountyil.gov](mailto:communitydevelopment@lakecountyil.gov)

Dear Mr. Rose,

I am writing in support of the 2013 CDBG Annual Action Plan Draft, which gives an initial positive recommendation to fund ElderCARE@ChristChurch.

ElderCARE makes a positive difference in the lives of many older adults who live in northern Lake County. Their volunteers are part of what make Lake County a good place to grow old.

All of their direct services are provided FREE of charge. This funding will play an important role in keeping its services available to the low-income elders, who so greatly need them.

I am one of the many ElderCare@ChristChurch volunteers and I have been providing transportation to medical appointments for many of the elderly in my community. I know that most of these seniors would not be able to live independently and still get to their doctors appointments without the help of ElderCare@ChristChurch and other volunteers such as myself.

Thank you again for the initial positive funding recommendation, which I strongly support becoming fully approved and final.

Sincerely,

Laurie Donohue  
10831 W. Talmadge Ave  
Beach Park, IL 60099  
847-662-4127

Hilary Ward Schnadt  
213 Heritage TRL  
Hainesville, IL 60030-1089

February 5, 2013

Ray Rose, Chair, Community Development Commission  
Lake County Community Development Division  
500 W. Winchester Road Unit 101  
Libertyville, IL 60048

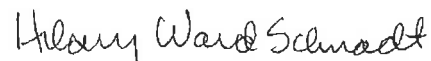
Dear Chairman Rose and Commission Members:

I am writing in support of the 2013 CDBG Annual Action Plan Draft, which gives an initial positive recommendation to fund ElderCARE@ChristChurch. This funding will play an important role in keeping its services available to the low-income elders, who so greatly need them.

I am a grocery shopper for ElderCARE, which means that every other Saturday I go to the senior housing facility in Grayslake to meet with my assigned client. She goes over her grocery list with me and then I go to the store and get her groceries and return with them. Sometimes I run additional errands for her at the post office or the hardware store. I know that she sometimes works with other ElderCARE volunteers who serve as drivers to take clients to medical appointments. Because ElderCARE provides trained volunteers to conduct these services, my client is able to continue living independently in an apartment.

Thank you for the initial positive funding recommendation. Please approve it fully.

Sincerely,



Hilary Ward Schnadt

Cc: Jill A. Grubbs & Mary Ellen Saunders  
**ElderCARE@ChristChurch**  
410 Grand Avenue  
Waukegan, IL 60085

CHRISTIAN FAITH FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

1727 27th Street  
Zion, Illinois 60099  
847/731-0700  
FAX 847/731-1765



February 7, 2013

Aaron Lawlor, Chairman  
Lake County Community Development Commission  
500 West Winchester Road, Unit 101  
Libertyville, IL 60048

Re: **Support of Community Development Block Grant Funding**

Dear Chairman Lawlor and Community Development Commissioners:

This is the Christian Faith Fellowship Church- Food Pantry located at 1727 27<sup>th</sup> Street, Zion, IL. This letter is being submitted on behalf of Northern Illinois Food Bank who is the supplier for our food bank and others in the Lake County area. We stand in agreement that it would be a great benefit for them to receive the Community Development Block Grant Funding.

This support will directly impact Christian Faith Fellowship Church- Food Pantry and the Lake County residents we serve each week. We have a greater need than the food that we currently receive from the food bank.

This grant will provide our pantry and six other food pantries serving hungry people in Lake County, with nutritious foods that our hungry neighbors request most, and thus are difficult for us to keep an ample supply, such foods as: cereal, canned fruit, rice and beans, baby foods, diapers-things which are high in demand.

Thank you in advance for hearing our heart and need,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Craig Mason".

Craig Mason/Administrator  
Christian Faith Fellowship Church

cc: Jacqui Hebein/NIFB



# Abiding Love Food Pantry

A Ministry of: Christian Assembly of God

2929 Bethel Blvd, Zion, IL 60099



February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Aaron Lawlor, Chairman  
Lake County Community Development Commission  
500 West Winchester Road, Unit 101  
Libertyville, IL 60048

Dear Chairman Lawlor and Community Development Commissioners:

As Director of Abiding Love Food Pantry, I see the great needs in the Zion area. People are struggling to keep their rent paid and food on their tables. I have seen a lot of new people over the past year and continue to get calls daily, inquiring about our food pantry. The need is great for nutritious and wholesome food. Items like milk, cereal, canned meat and fruit, beans etc. are hard for us to continually distribute because of the cost. The Northern Illinois Food Bank has been a great partner with us. They continue to find new ways to help us serve the people of our area. We could not continue to feed over 300 households each week, without their help.

Please consider Lake Co. and Abiding Love Food Pantry for the Community Development Block Grant funding. This area of Lake Co. has a much higher unemployment rate than the national average. The people who are employed, have suffered greatly reduced wages, and continue to have great need. Thank you for your time and consideration. If you should have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached in the church office at 847.872.3541.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Connie Eklund".

Connie Eklund

Director-Abiding Love Food Pantry

**Gomez, Janel**

---

**Subject:** Support Northern Illinois Food Bank's CDBG Request

Feb 5, 2013

Chairman Aaron Lawlor

Dear Chairman Lawlor,

I am writing to encourage your backing of Northern Illinois Food Bank's request for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding to help feed hungry neighbors in Lake County.

Northern Illinois Food Bank is doing tremendous work in Lake County to provide food to our residents in need. Its partnership with local food pantries strengthens our county's response to a critical issue facing 11 percent of our population and 1 in 5 of our children: hunger. While it's difficult to believe, the reality is that 36,750 kids in Lake County will face hunger at some point this year. Northern Illinois Food Bank, through its partnership with local feeding programs and through its own direct distribution to children, and seniors, is making a difference.

Northern Illinois Food Bank cares about our community, as evidenced in the remarkable growth in the organization's Backpack Program which provides a weekend's supply of nutritious food for up to three children through school partnerships. This program has grown from providing food to children at 19 schools last school year to 26 schools this year, serving a total 569 kids each week.

Providing nutritious food for our hungry neighbors is a key priority for the food bank. It works with local retailers for donations of fresh produce; seeks out corporate and foundation sponsorship of healthy food initiatives, such as their Foods To Encourage program that provides healthy options for its network partners; and purchases most-needed nutritious foods to ensure such products are available.

The food bank's CDBG request will allow the food bank to provide more food to Lake County residents in need through its network of emergency food pantries. The food provided through the grant will be items the pantries have told the food bank their hungry neighbors request the most, and that the pantry has the hardest time keeping on the shelf.

Our local food pantries have seen exponential growth in the number of people needing assistance. And, all indications are that things are not getting better; the need is continuing to increase. Funding Northern Illinois Food Bank allows seven local pantries to benefit from combined buying power, and thousands of hungry Lake County residents to go to bed with a full belly.

I support Northern Illinois Food Bank and the work it's doing to ensure no one goes hungry in Lake County. Please share these sentiments with the rest of the Community Development commissioners. I encourage the commission to approve the food bank's CDBG request.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Laura Joyce  
813 Arthur Ave  
Libertyville, IL 60048-3180

February 7, 2013

Aaron Lawlor, Chairman  
Lake County Community Development Commission  
500 West Winchester Road, Unit 101  
Libertyville, IL 60048

**Re: Support of Community Development Block Grant Funding**

Dear Chairman Lawlor and Community Development Commissioners:

This is the Christian Faith Fellowship Church- Food Pantry located at 1727 27<sup>th</sup> Street, Zion, IL. This letter is being submitted on behalf of Northern Illinois Food Bank who is the supplier for our food bank and others in the Lake County area. We stand in agreement that it would be a great benefit for them to receive the Community Development Block Grant Funding.

This support will directly impact Christian Faith Fellowship Church- Food Pantry and the Lake County residents we serve each week. We have a greater need than the food that we currently receive from the food bank.

This grant will provide our pantry and six other food pantries serving hungry people in Lake County, with nutritious foods that our hungry neighbors request most, and thus are difficult for us to keep an ample supply, such foods as: cereal, canned fruit, rice and beans, baby foods, diapers-things which are high in demand.

Thank you in advance for hearing our heart and need,



Craig Mason/Administrator  
Christian Faith Fellowship Church

cc: Jacqui Hebein/NIFB





Society of St. Vincent de Paul  
At St. Francis de Sales Parish  
135 S. Buesching Rd  
Lake Zurich IL 60047



February 5, 2013

Aaron Lawlor, Chairman  
Lake County Community Development Commission  
500 W Winchester Rd Ste 101  
Libertyville, IL 60048-1371

Dear Chairman Lawlor and Community Development Commissioners:

I am the Co-Chairperson of the Anti-Hunger Ministry of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul at St. Francis de Sales Parish in Lake Zurich. I am writing to ask for your support of the request from Northern Illinois Food Bank for Community Development Block Grant funding. This funding will directly support the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry that serves all of the residents of Lake County and six other food pantries that are also helping to provide food for hungry neighbors. Although we are located in Ela Township in the southwestern corner of the county, our clients come from all of the county's townships because we are one of the few food pantries that is open to the entire county, because we are open in the evening to accommodate low income earners and because we allow our clients to come for food every week.

The generous food donations we received for Thanksgiving and Christmas are now gone so we are again in the difficult position of trying to provide almost 20,000 meals to less fortunate neighbors every month. About 8,000 of those meals are for children and 1,200 for senior citizens. Staples such as cereal, canned fruit, dried beans and rice are in short supply. Although some of these foods and others are available at a deep discount on the Northern Illinois Food Bank shopping list, our ability to purchase them is limited by our limited funds.

As you may imagine, the economic conditions of the last few years have created more families who need help. Our pantry is now seeing clients from the affluent communities of Kildeer, Hawthorn Woods and Long Grove along with the less affluent communities from surrounding

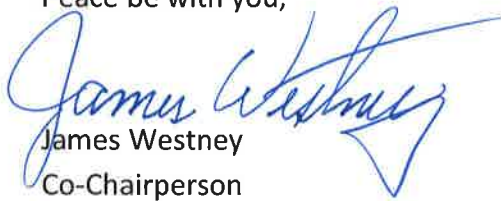
The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)3 organization FEIN 36-3195567. We do not provide goods or services in exchange for donations.



townships. Funding from the Community Development Block Grant would go a long way to help us provide for these unfortunate neighbors. Please keep them in mind when you consider my request for your support.

I have mentioned the Northern Illinois Food Bank several times because without them, we would most certainly not be able to effectively continue our mission to fight hunger. We rely on Northern Illinois Food Bank for more than just food. They are an important and cooperative and supportive partner that has enabled us to increase our capacity to help more neighbors.

Peace be with you,



James Westney  
Co-Chairperson

February 7, 2013

Ray Rose, Chair, Community Development Commission  
Lake County Community Development Division  
500 W. Winchester Road, Unit 101  
Libertyville, Illinois 60048



Re: 2013 CDBG – Mano a Mano Family Resource Center

Dear Mr. Rose:

I have been a member of the Board of Directors of Mano a Mano Family Resource Center for only a short while, but I can tell you with a great degree of certainty the positive impact that Mano a Mano has within the Latino community. Therefore, I am writing in support of the 2013 CDBG Annual Action Plan Draft, which I understand has given an initial positive recommendation to fund Mano a Mano Family Resource Center.

Mano a Mano's impact is significant, serving over 4,000 individuals each year. Their services help people to find and access healthcare, find resources to help when they don't know where or how to seek help, break down language barriers and most importantly, have a sense that they are not alone in the world.

All Mano a Mano services are provided free of charge. Funding through the 2013 CDBG will play an important role in keeping Mano a Mano's services available to the low-income limited-English proficient community members who so desperately need their help.

Thank you for the initial positive funding recommendation and please accept this letter strongly supporting the initial recommendation becoming fully approved and final.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James B. Kinney", is written over a large, stylized, and somewhat abstract signature graphic that extends across the page.

James B. Kinney  
President/CEO



February 7, 2012

Mr. Ray Rose,  
Lake County Community Development Commission  
500 W. Winchester Road, Unit 101  
Libertyville, IL 60048

Re: Mano a Mano

Dear Mr. Rose:

Please accept this letter in support of the 2013 CDBG Annual Action Plan Draft and specifically, its positive recommendation to fund Mano a Mano Family Resource Center.

Mano a Mano provides critical services in my community that are not offered by any other entity. Mano a Mano serves over 4,000 individuals every year. Because of Mano a Mano's efforts, these individual are able to access healthcare, job training and resources, language courses and more. All of this is offered by Mano a Mano at no cost. Without Mano a Mano these people would not receive these essential services.

Funding provided by the Lake County Community Development Commission will help keep these services available to Mano a Mano's underserved and low income clients. These people depend on these services and have no other source to turn to for this support.

Thank you for the Initial positive funding recommendation. I hope draft plan is approved.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Bruce Schottland', written over a horizontal line.

Bruce Schottland



**Carolina Duque**  
Executive Director

#### Board of Directors

**Larry Waco Sr.**  
President

**Bruce Schottland**  
Vice President

**Edna Molina**  
Secretary

**Edgar Vargas**  
Treasurer

Andrés Cerritos  
Andrés Cerritos Law Office

Mary Charuhas  
College of Lake County

Jorge Contreras

Diane Emerson  
ComEd

Bruce Johnson  
NICASA

Christine Lopez  
Rosalind Franklin University  
of Medicine and Science

Edna Molina  
Abbott Laboratories

Jeff Prickett  
Round Lake Middle School

Bruce Schottland  
Harter & Schottland, P.C.

Edgar Vargas  
Abbott Laboratories

Larry Waco Sr.  
Saddlebrook Farms

# Mano a Mano Family Resource Center

*"The Mission of Mano a Mano is to empower immigrant and underserved families of Lake County to become full participants in American life by providing quality programs and services that educate and establish links to essential community resources. Our mission is sustained by our respect for human dignity and our belief in the equality of all people."*

February 7, 2013

Ray Rose, Chair, Community Development Commission  
Lake County Community Development Division  
500 W. Winchester Road Unit 101  
Libertyville, IL 60048



Dear Mr. Rose:

Mano a Mano is very thankful to have received an initial positive funding recommendation of \$18,750 from the Lake County CDBG Public Service funding. Each year, over 1,600 low-income individuals are served through Mano a Mano's Information and Referral program. Our program's comprehensive case management and information and referral services work to promote security of family and social stability. They help to ensure that low- and moderate income individuals and families with limited English proficiency have the ability to access the community services they need in order to not just survive but thrive in their new community. While Mano a Mano serves primarily Latino immigrants, the struggling economy has caused an increasing number of non-immigrants to turn to us for assistance as well.

Our programs help the poorest of the poor in the area. The individuals served last fiscal year had an approximate average income of \$21,600 with an average family size of 4. Over 90% are Latino with very limited English proficiency. The great majority have completed less than 8 years of formal schooling.

Our Information & Referral program helps them have the support research has shown will enable them to break out of poverty. They receive answers to questions, find other sources of help and have access to the benefits, such as AllKids, SNAP, and Medicaid. Many say that they do not know they would do without our help. With the support of our Information and Referral program, adults can focus on learning English, gaining computer skills and obtaining a GED; their children can focus on their school work enabling communities to move out of poverty one family at a time.

Thank you again for taking the time to review our application and the initial positive funding recommendation. We hope that for the benefit of our community, his decision will become final.

Sincerely,

Carolina Duque  
Executive Director