



May 21, 2018

Administrator Caren Harp
810 Seventh Street NW
Washington, DC 20531

RE: OJJDP FY 2018 Second Chance Act Ensuring Public Safety and Improving Outcomes for Youth in Confinement and While under Community Supervision

Dear. Ms. Harp,

On behalf of the City of Fort Pierce I am submitting this letter of support for the Second Chance Act Ensuring Public Safety and Improving Outcomes for Youth in Confinement and While under Community Supervision grant application.

The City of Fort Pierce has struggled with high levels of youth gang violence, but since 2014, the City, and the Fort Pierce Police Department, in collaboration with other community partners, has invested significant time and resources to implement a comprehensive, evidence-based, and long-term approach to combating youth gang-violence in Fort Pierce through the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's Comprehensive Gang Model.

We are presently starting to witness the benefits of this program and have over the last two years seen significant reductions in gang crime, and improved public safety as a result of targeted policing strategies and intervention services for gang involved youth. We are now seeking to expand and enhance our re-entry and victims services programs to further improve outcomes for youth in confinement and while under community supervision.

The City of Fort Pierce currently employs the project coordinator of RTVYI and provides office and meeting space for the program, as support in the form of grants to the initiative for essential programming.

As the Mayor of Fort Pierce, and Co-Chair of the Roundtable of Saint Lucie County I am fully committed to work with the Police Department, the Roundtable of Saint Lucie County, local leaders, service providers, community leaders to implement enhanced re-entry services for program youth

Sincerely,

Linda Hudson
Mayor