

CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER OF HIDALGO COUNTY, INC.

525 W. Wisconsin Rd. • Edinburg, Texas 78539 • Phone (956) 287-9754 • Fax (956) 287-9764

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Victoria Y. Medina

May 21, 2013

Honorable Ramon Garcia
Hidalgo County Judge
2818 S Bus. Hwy. 281
Edinburg, TX 78539

RE: 381.004 (f) of the Local Government Code

Dear Judge:

It is that time of year when the Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) requests funding assistance from appropriate sources. We are reaching out to you for consideration. Section 381.004 (f) of the Local Government Code: states *"The commissioners' court of a county may support a Children's Advocacy Center that provides services to abused children."* Last year, commissioners' court supported the center in the amount of \$50,000. We are requesting the same level of funding for this year, 2013.

This funding if awarded along with other funding allows the CAC, a community-based nonprofit, to continue meeting the needs of child abuse victims by providing child forensic interviews conducted by trained interviewers, medical examinations, mental health/counseling services, victim support and advocacy, and case review using a multidisciplinary team. We work in collaboration with law enforcement, Child Protective Services, and the District Attorney's Office to coordinate a quick response and provide needed services to the victim and non-offending family members of Hidalgo County. We see 85 to 100 new cases each month. Since 2001, the CAC has seen over 13,000 children.

Studies show that abused children who get early professional assistance are more likely to succeed in dealing and coping with the trauma of abuse and do better later in their adult lives. With early intervention, we can help break the cycle of abuse and, more importantly, significantly increase a child's chances of becoming a healthy adult, a good parent, and a citizen that is able to positively contribute back to the community.

We are formally requesting funding support from Funding Source 381.004 of the Local Government Code or other appropriate funding sources in the amount of \$50,000, the same level as last year.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to call me at (956) 287-9754. On behalf of the Board of Directors, we thank you for your time, your consideration and your support.

Respectfully,

Victoria Medina
Executive Director

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OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
ON: 5/24/13 BY:

Our Mission is to reduce the emotional trauma to child abuse victims by facilitating a multidisciplinary approach, which supports the prevention of child abuse through community education and promotes the effective prosecution of those who perpetrate crimes against children.

