



SEP 12 2014

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9/11/14

Diana R. Serna, Director
Urban County Program
427 E. Duranta Avenue, Suite 107
Alamo, TX 78516

Dear Mrs. Diana Serna,

This letter serves to express my gratitude for giving me the opportunity to work with Hidalgo County – Urban County Program funds and its cordial staff. Your funds helped ARCH make an impact in its communities. We paid rents to keep families from sleeping in their cars, house deposits to move families into a home, paid disconnected utilities like light and water to prevent eviction while our case management services worked strategically with participants to move them towards self-sufficiency. All services provided were essential to promoting ARCH & Urban County's goals of addressing homelessness in Hidalgo County. Our families will miss these services with us but we are encouraged because we built wonderful relationships with sister agencies that we know will pick up the banner to carry forth the good work in our communities.

ARCH's IRS debt incurred way before we built a relationship with Urban County (2009 - 2014) and dates back to 2001 through 2004. A strongly affecting factor was falling victim to well-intended pro bono service providers such as CPAs, law professionals and poor bookkeepers who in spite of their good intent to help us; never really followed through with the much needed services. The neglected services included inadequately prepared 990/941 and some filed late or not filed by due date that began to incur penalties & interest. Board membership also had its problems & challenges when dealing with these & operating issues. Other significant factors that attributed to ARCH's operating crisis were dwindling operating funds and stringent funder operating allocations (5%). However, I assure you ARCH's working team (staff & I) admonished ourselves to deliver exceptional services to our participants and funders. I only ask that you remember us "the working team" who strived to ensure a job well done as your ratings many times amply demonstrated.

While I am helping ARCH ensure we complete our 2013 ESG FY 26 contract by the given date of on or before October 17, 2014, I am also submitting this letter to you as our official announcement to decline the 2014 ESG FY 27 funding until further notice. I am glad to have worked alongside your staff and I look forward to a continued working relationship perhaps at a different time in the near future. I hope all Urban County final requests to closing work is to your satisfaction. Please do not hesitate to call me if you have any questions at 956-624-4006.

Sincerely,

San Juanita Maldonado
San Juanita Maldonado
Executive Director for ARCH