

# 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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## Executive Officers:

December 4, 2017

Lorena Castillo, President  
Rick Guerrero, Vice-President  
Providence Boneta, Treasurer  
Dr. Carolina Huerta, Secretary  
  
Tina Martin, Past President

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

## Hidalgo County Board Members:

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Sheriff J.E. (Eddie) Guerra  
Betabel Guerra  
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Danielle D. Fox  
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Myra Montalvo  
Providence Boneta  
Sandra Martinez, Esq.

## **RE: 381.004 (f) of the Local Government Code**

Dear Judge Ramon Garcia:

## Starr County Board Members:

Omar Escobar, DA  
Miguel Villarreal

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 FY 2017-18

## Interim Executive Director:

Jesus A. Sanchez.

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, mental health/counseling services, victim support and advocacy, community outreach/training, and case review using a multidisciplinary team model. 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 served 1,337 new victims in FY2017 and are on our way to match or exceed that number in FY2018. We are also happy to report that we opened a satellite office in Mission at 1116 N. Conway Ave. to bring services to the western part of the county, Pct. 3. If we continue with a good funding stream, our goal is to eventually open a satellite office in Weslaco to serve the eastern part of the county, Pct. 1.

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 Submitted,

Jesus A. Sanchez  
Interim Executive Director

