

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
COUNTY OF HIDALGO §

**Declaration of Support to the
Children’s Advocacy Center of Hidalgo County
by the County of Hidalgo, Texas**

Whereas, the Children’s Advocacy Center of Hidalgo County, d/b/a Estrella’s House (“Estrella’s House”), has requested that Hidalgo County (the “County”) support its efforts to help abused children in the county;

Whereas, child abuse is recognized as a national significant problem and as such Estrella’s House has been created in accordance with Texas Family Code Chapter 264;

Whereas, Local Government Code Section 381.004 (e) and (f) permit the Commissioners’ Court of a county to support a children’s advocacy center that provides services to abused children from unclaimed property monies received from the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts as described in Local Government Code Section 381.004 (e); and

Whereas, Hidalgo County has found it is in the best interest of the County’s residents to support Estrella’s House by providing funds as allowed by Local Government Code Section 381.004.

Pursuant to Local Government Code Chapter 381, the Commissioners’ Court of Hidalgo County, Texas (the “County”) does hereby tender to Estrella’s House, located at 525 W. Wisconsin, Edinburg, Texas, the amount of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00). The amount tendered to Estrella’s House is to be used only for the furtherance of the purposes set forth below:

- To access victims of child abuse and their families to determine their needs of services relating to the investigation of child abuse.
- To provide services determined to be needed.
- To provide a facility at which a multidisciplinary team appointed under Texas Family Code Section 264.406 can meet to facilitate the efficient and appropriate disposition of child abuse through the civil and criminal justice systems.
- To coordinate the activities of governmental entities relating to child abuse investigations and delivery of services to child abuse victims and their families.

Estrella's House agrees to allow the County Auditor or his representatives the right, upon reasonable notice, to review and audit all books and records of Estrella's House.

Estrella's House, by the acceptance of this monetary support, warrants and represents that this support shall be held, administered, and used in accordance with all the terms and conditions in this instrument.

Passed and Approved on this the 13th day of October, 2015 by the Commissioners' Court of Hidalgo County, Texas.

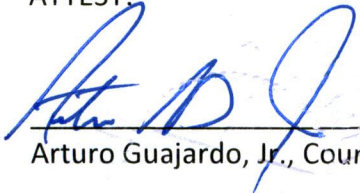
HIDALGO COUNTY



Ramon Garcia, County Judge

APPROVED BY
COMMISSIONERS' COURT
ON: 10/13/15 

ATTEST:




Arturo Guajardo, Jr., County Clerk

**CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER
OF HIDALGO COUNTY**

By: Victoria Medina
Its: Executive Director

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Office of Criminal District Attorney, Ricardo Rodriguez, Jr.



By: Josephine R. Solis, Asst. D.A.

CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER OF HIDALGO COUNTY, INC.

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

WWW.CACHIDALGO.ORG



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Lorena Castillo, Vice-President
Miguel Villarreal, Treasurer
Karen Griffin Munoz, Secretary

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Omar Escobar, DA
Judith A. Solis

Executive Director:

Victoria Y. Medina



August 4, 2015

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 FY 2015-16.

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 **1088 new victims** in 2014 and are on our way to match or exceed that number in 2015.

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

RECEIVED
OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
ON: 8/11/15 BY:

CC 10/13/15