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July 2, 2019

Mr. Ron Olson
City Manager, City of Killeen
101 N. College Street
Killeen, Texas 76541

Dear Mr. Olson:

A request is being made that the Homeless crisis be placed as an agenda item of the Killeen City Council in the very near future. At its meeting June 4, the City Council passed two motions, one for consideration of interim funding and one for long term funding. On a 7-0 vote, a motion to give guidance to the City Manager to explore other opportunities for the interim was approved. Assistant City Manager Ellison sought clarification indicating that the Council meant interim and immediate. That was confirmed by the Council. Since that date, a month has passed and the homeless are still suffering. In accordance with the direction of the City Council on June 4, I am requesting consideration for immediate funding to assist in reopening the Friends In Crisis Homeless Shelter, a program of Families In Crisis. On behalf of Families In Crisis, I am requesting the City's support in the amount of \$60,000. This is consistent with the request in the letter dated June 5 which was the day after the initial presentation. During the meeting between you, Mike Kriegel, and me on May 22, you indicated funds can be used from fund balance for this purpose. Any delay requires homeless individuals to be out on the streets. Thus, the request is for the funds to be available as soon as possible.

Please include the June 5 letter of request with this one, since I will not repeat most of the items included in that letter. This is a humanitarian issue, not a political one. With each passing day, there is concern about health and safety of those citizens who are affected.

When an issue arises at the community level, there are always misstatements and rumors that are started just because the individuals speculate and do not know the facts. The City of Killeen is provided a number of financials by Families In Crisis and has for many years. Annually, a copy of the tax return and the organization's audit is supplied. Monthly, an expenditure report is provided and quarterly, a performance report that provides information on both the domestic violence shelter and the homeless shelter is provided.

At the June 4 meeting a document was provided regarding funding from federal CDBG funds that flows through the City. It states that \$2,249,800.12 was provided in HOME funds over the past 12 years. What it did not tell you is it cost Families In Crisis \$224,980 (10% of the total) of its own funds to administer the program because there are no administrative fees in the funds. That is \$18,733 per year on the average. No other organization wants to administer the funds because of this cost to the organization. Because of our desire to help people to facilitate a new positive chapter in their lives, we want to use these funds to enable people to get a fresh start. That is part of the empower part of our mission statement.

Another aspect is management. I served as a superintendent in the school business for 19 years and I have always made sure that accountability was maintained at the highest level. Since I was a math major in college, I have always been a numbers person. I also pinched pennies to make sure the funds were effectively used. I am pleased to tell that the same accountability and cost effective measures are in operation in this organization. Besides the financial reports provided to the City, Families In Crisis has a dozen grants that it is receiving during the 2018 budget cycle. Some are federal and some are state. Each carries with it the specifics for its use. Each also has accountability measures. Some are audited every year, a few every other year, and one every three years. Usually, it is the same as a regular audit, but drilled down for that specific grant. Compliance with the requirements is thoroughly audited. We have always done well because of our accountability measures. If any of these funds could have been used for the homeless shelter, we would have attempted to make it work. Now that we have been in operation for three years, we are pursuing similar grants for the homeless shelter.

The homeless shelter is one part of the total operation of Families In Crisis. A little additional information is being provided to demonstrate the organization's reach, much more than most other organizations. Children are significantly impacted by both domestic violence and homelessness. For the shelters, the percent of children ages 0-17 was 45.4% at the domestic violence shelter, 7.3% at the homeless shelter, and 58.3% in transition housing. Some data for the shelters and other operations include the following:

Domestic violence shelter - 648 unduplicated, 2018

Male - 178; female - 469, transgender female to male - 1

Age: 259 (0-12); 35 (13-17); 66 (18-24); 269 (25-59); 19 (60+)

Race: 8 Asian; 329 African American; 100 Multi-Race; 1 Native American; 1 Pacific Islander; 209 White

Homeless shelter - 874 new, unduplicated in 16 month period January 1, 2018 through April 2019

Adults: 810 (92.7%); Children 64 (7.3%)

Veterans: 127 (14.5%)

Age: 64 (0-17); 116 (18-24); 220 (25-34); 177 (35-44); 135 (45-54); 95 (55-61); 67 (62 +)

Transition housing assistance - 511 in 2018; 294 through June 16, 2019 for this year

Age: 109 (0-12); 25 (13-17); 21 (18-24); 121 (24-59); 18 (60 +)

Outreach - 230 unduplicated 2018

Male - 18; female - 216

Age - 14 (0-12); 10 (13-17); 28 (18-24); 165 (25-59); 13 (60 +)

Thank you for your attention to this matter. As stated, our request is for \$60,000 in as timely fashion as possible. Your consideration is of utmost importance for our homeless citizens.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please call me at 254-466-3601 or contact one of our directors, William Hall or Suzanne Armour at 254-634-1184. Again, thank you.

Sincerely,



Larry W. Moehnke, Ed.D.

Vice President, Board of Directors