

TASK FORCE ON  
**FAMILY**  
 VIOLENCE CDBG A

BUILDING PEACEFUL COMMUNITIES 2009 JAN 30 AM 11:46

January 28, 2009

Steve Mahan  
 Community Block Grant Director  
 200 E. Wells Street  
 City Hall, Room 606  
 Milwaukee, WI 53202

**RE: CDBG Project Grant #CD4800050735**

Dear Mr. Mahan:

This letter is a follow up to my brief conversation with Birdie Boyd about the Task Force on Family Violence (TFFV) and Sojourner Truth House's partnership and merger.

As you know, the TFFV is the recipient of the Community Block Grant Award referenced above. The purpose of this letter is to inform the Community Block Grant Office of our name change which will be a part of our merger with Sojourner Truth House, Inc. effective February 1, 2009. Our merged organization's new name is Sojourner Family Peace Center.

Rest assured that there are **no other changes to the application information** originally submitted by the TFFV, and the activities approved by the Community Development Grants Administration are unaffected by the merger. Specifically, there is no change in the project site or director, or costs of the project. The merger is merely a formal step in the collaboration the TFFV has had with Sojourner Truth House, Inc. for some time. We firmly believe that this merger will allow us to broaden the services we offer to victims of domestic violence in our community.

I can be reached at 414-276-1911 x14 and will make myself to help Birdie with the required tasks necessary for this contract transfer.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the TFFV and our work to help victims of crime in our community.

Sincerely,

  
 Carmen Pitre  
 Executive Director

**Advocacy & Administration**  
 1400 North 6th Street • Milwaukee, WI 53212 • (p) 414.276.1911 • (f) 414.276.5001

**Restraining Order Clinic**  
 901 North 9th Street • Milwaukee, WI 53233 • (p) 414.278.5079 • (f) 414.223.1807  
[www.tffv.org](http://www.tffv.org) • [info@tffv.org](mailto:info@tffv.org)

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CDGA

January 27, 2009  
2009 JAN 30 AM 11:48



Steven L. Mahan, Block Grant Director  
City of Milwaukee, Department of Administration  
Community Development Grants Administration  
200 E. Wells Street, Room 606  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

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Re: Account #GR1500309081-82

Dear Mr. Mahan:

Sojourner Truth House and Task Force on Family Violence have provided quality services to women, children and families impacted by domestic violence for over 30 years in this community. During this time, your partnership and consistent support has allowed us to help over 100,000 clients.

After these years of dedicated service to women and families affected by domestic abuse in Milwaukee, Sojourner Truth House and the Task Force on Family Violence are merging to form **Sojourner Family Peace Center** in order to better serve our clients. The enclosed press release, which will be issued publicly next week, is enclosed for your information.

As you know, Sojourner Truth House received a \$54,521 ESG grant to support our emergency domestic violence shelter and related program services. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of a name change which will be a part of our merger with the Task Force on Family Violence effective February 1, 2009. The Sojourner Truth House federal EIN number will remain after the merger.

Rest assured that there are *no other changes to the application information* originally submitted by Sojourner Truth House, and the activities originally approved by the Community Development Grants Administration are unaffected by the merger. Specifically, there is no change in the project site or director, or the costs of the project. The merger is merely a formal step in the collaboration Sojourner Truth House has had with the Task Force on Family Violence for some time. We firmly believe that this merger will allow us to broaden the services we offer to victims of domestic violence in our community.

Please call me directly at 414-643-1777 with questions. Thank you for your ongoing support of Sojourner Truth House. We are grateful for your partnership.

Peacefully,

Angela Mancuso  
Co-Executive Director

*The mission of Sojourner Family Peace Center is to create peaceful communities in which domestic respect and a life free from violence is the right of every woman, man and child.*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
January 28, 2009

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:  
Erin Smith Eaton, (414) 643-1777  
Sojourner Family Peace Center

## **TASK FORCE ON FAMILY VIOLENCE AND SOJOURNER TRUTH HOUSE MERGE** *Merger creates one of the largest domestic violence service providers in the state*

(MILWAUKEE, Wis. – January 28, 2009) – The Task Force on Family Violence and Sojourner Truth House today announced that they have merged into a single organization, Sojourner Family Peace Center. The agencies will merge effective February 1, 2009 to more effectively and efficiently deliver domestic violence victims a broad range of resources and services.

Combining the services of the two organizations means clients will have a single, strong organization to turn to and one resource to go for help. The merger also allows the agencies, which have a long history of grant and fundraising collaboration, to increase administrative and program efficiencies and streamline fundraising efforts.

Recently recommended by both organizations' leadership teams and unanimously approved by their respective Boards of Directors, the merger stemmed from initial discussions to co-locate the two domestic violence agencies in an effort to improve the delivery of services to their clients.

"As the two executive committees initially met and discussed a proposed partnership, it became clear that a full merger would serve our clients best," said Rev. Douglas Leonhardt, S.J., president of Sojourner Truth House's Board of Directors. "This newly formed organization will have only one board, not two; combined finances; and, most importantly, it will allow us to offer our clients a single resource to go to for help. This will reduce confusion on the part of our clients and provide them with the best domestic violence experts, services and programs in Wisconsin."

"In determining to move forward with the merger, executive committees from both organizations evaluated administrative operations and examined program offerings," said Leigh Riley, president of the Task Force on Family Violence Board of Directors. "We concluded that a merged organization would better serve our clients and the Milwaukee community by eliminating some degree of overhead and unnecessary layers. Our primary focus remains on easing the difficulties domestic violence victims face when making the decision to live a life free of abuse. Sojourner Family Peace Center will offer clients everything they need."

### **About Sojourner Family Peace Center:**

Sojourner Family Peace Center provides education, advocacy and resources to keep people safe. It operates a 37-bed shelter that has provided safety and support services to thousands of women and children. Other programs include a 24-Hour Domestic Violence Hotline, Domestic Abuse Victim Advocates in the Milwaukee District Attorney's Office, Belle Resource Center for Women and Children, Courthouse Advocacy, Legal Emergency Assistance, Children's Advocacy, Ending Violence through Education and BA—Beyond Abuse, for men and women seeking alternatives to their abusive behavior. The Sojourner Family Peace Center is committed to creating communities where people live peacefully. It is expected to serve approximately 30,000 people in 2009.

For more information about this announcement or Sojourner Family Peace Center programs, please contact: Erin Smith Eaton, at [esmith@sojournertruthhouse.org](mailto:esmith@sojournertruthhouse.org) or (414) 643-1777.

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