

July 11, 2016

City of Milwaukee-
Community Development Grants Administration
Public hearings

Re: Community Dev. Block Grant Program-2017 funding allocations
(Safe and Sound Community Program)

To Whom It May Concern:

I am Jenny Leon-Martinez and reside in the Northwest side of Milwaukee. Our area has had the opportunity to receive assistance and has benefitted greatly from the Safe and Sound program in previous years. I feel that we could not have maintained our block watch group and our neighborhood safety without the assistance of the knowledgeable and helpful staff of the Safe and Sound program. They truly provide much guidance working in conjunction with the MPD. I feel these two entities, together, make a huge difference in the safety, cleanliness, togetherness of our neighborhoods. One truly needs the other!

We have maintained a clean, safe and happy neighborhood in part with the interventions of the staff of the S & S program. They assist us with communication with unruly, uncooperative neighbors; help us correlate the block and creek clean up, block beautification and our block party. Many times in the past, staff members have spent hours on our block with watchful eyes and driving through our surrounding neighborhoods assisting us with drug dealing reports and riding the area of drug dealers. The staff has also assisted by making and distributing copies of communications to our neighbors. As well as guiding our efforts to a cleaner, safer place.

I am extremely grateful for programs such as this and feel that all neighborhoods would benefit from what the staff at Safe and Sound have to offer. Many people haven't a clue as to where to start with a Block Watch or how to communicate with difficult neighbors, so having Amanda Schick-Community Organizer and Scott Labott-Community Prosecution Unit-Dist. 7 at our reach, is truly beneficial. Please consider providing additional funding for this very valuable program.

Sincerely,
Jenny Leon-Martinez
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