



SAMUEL'S HOUSE, Inc.

The Mary Spottswood Women's Center,
Kathy's Hope and Casa de Meredith

"Speak Lord, for your servant is listening" 1 Samuel 3:9

October 28, 2015

Chief Donald Lee
Key West Police Department
1604 N Roosevelt Blvd
Key West, Florida 33040

Dear Chief Lee;

On October 1, 1999, Samuel's House, Inc., a 5001(c)(3) organization opened its first program, The Mary Spottswood Women's Center emergency shelter for women and women with minor children. In 2007, Kathy's Hope opened as a 16-bedroom/bath permanent supportive structured housing facility. Kathy's Hope provides housing opportunities where women and women with minor children in recovery from alcohol and drug abuse or who have been diagnosed with co-occurring disorders can reside as long as they wish. In 2010, another structured permanent supportive living facility, Casa de Meredith, was opened offering 7 two-bedroom and 2 studio affordable apartment units for single women and men, women and men with children and intact families.

Samuel's House, Inc. offers a hand up, not a hand out. Safe shelter, essential services and individualized, intensive case management are essential for preventing crime and victimization for homeless women and children who find themselves in crisis situations. In-shelter women and children are given safety from all forms of violence, they are safe from the elements and from the effects of drug and alcohol abuse and other risks associated with homelessness; they have options for safe, legal employment, rather than crime such as selling drugs or participating in sex trafficking or prostitution. Samuel's House assists clients in developing the tools and confidence to manage their own lives fully, responsibly, and independently.

In 2014, 20 of the 100 adult women that entered Samuel's House came directly from incarceration in the Monroe County Detention Facility. Another 18 adult women were court ordered to Samuel' House in lieu of serving time in jail. With resources and support, these women, and women like them, find safety and support to avoid victimization and criminal behavior and become self-sufficient, productive members of the Monroe County community.

Samuel's House is requesting \$500 in general operating funding for assistance in the provision of the services that help keep these women sheltered.

It is through the support and generosity of businesses such as yours that we are able to continue to provide services to homeless women, women and men with children and intact families in the Florida Keys.

Sincerely,

Kim Stover
Executive Assistant to Elmira Leto, CEO