

HONORABLE AURORA MARTINEZ JONES

126th District Court Judge
TRAVIS COUNTY CIVIL DISTRICT COURTS
P.O. Box 1748
Austin, Texas 78767



APRIL MORTON
Judicial Executive Assistant
(512) 854-5965

TAMMY JITNOOM
CPS Court Administrator
(512) 854-9244

MARISSA RODRIGUEZ
Judicial Aide
(512) 854-5951

KASI CHAPMAN
Official Court Reporter
(512) 854-5598

May 2, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

I am the 126th State District Court Judge and the Presiding Judge for all child welfare cases in Travis County. I have been grateful to have partnered with Foster Village for years and am immensely proud of the support I have seen them provide for children and families in our community. Foster Village has served the children and families of Travis County since 2016 with a level of excellence and intentionality that has continued to help change the landscape of how our vulnerable neighbors experience foster care. Their home-like resource centers serve as a safe haven of support and connection for our kids and families experiencing some of the most heartbreaking circumstances. A place where youth and caregivers in crisis can come for tangible, relational, and therapeutic support services that are easily accessible and free of charge.

Foster Village has demonstrated a consistent commitment to ensuring that children, youth and families intersecting with the child welfare system have the opportunity to connect with a village of support. Since the inception of Foster Village, they have served requests for families engaging with family based safety services, licensed foster homes and post adoptive families, kinship/fictive kinship caregivers, and reunifying families, as well as aging out youth seeking support in setting up in their new living situations. As community partners in Travis County's Child Welfare Reimagined Pilot, Foster Village shares our hope for a community where the need to remove children from their family homes would be eliminated. However, until that day, they remain committed to bridging the gap between a community who wants to help and caregivers who are feeling isolated and alone.

I know that the services provided through Foster Village are only made possible through the generosity of this community. By investing in the mission of this organization, stakeholders are investing in families. We are stronger together.

As the need for their services on the north end of Austin has exceeded the capacity of their current north Austin resource center, I am glad to hear of their intent to purchase land on Dessau road in my county. I am well-familiar with the area and believe this will be a pivotal location in

continuing to meet the needs of our community. I whole-heartedly support their campaign for a permanent Austin location to expand their local programs in addition to a national headquarters - enabling them to continue to replicate villages of support in other communities across Texas and the United States.

I look forward to seeing the success of this campaign and how it translates to greater support for families. If there are any questions about my support of Foster Village, this project, or our partnership, please feel free to contact me at aurora.martinezjones@traviscountytexas.gov or by phone at (512) 645-8125, my direct line.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Aurora Martinez Jones". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Aurora Martinez Jones
126th District Court Judge