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May 27, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of Helping Hand Home for Children, I'd like to relay our support of Foster Village's intent to purchase property in North Austin which will allow them to continue their important work of supporting children and families intersecting with the child welfare system.

For our community's vulnerable children, it takes many agencies and nonprofits working together along the continuum of care to support families. Foster Village is a vital piece in this continuum. As a bridge organization, Foster Village is uniquely able to partner and support community-wide the critical work of child placing agencies such as Helping Hand Home for Children. Our foster/adopt team members and caregivers have utilized their current north Austin resource center on many occasions and have found it to be a well-equipped, trauma-informed, and family-friendly space.

We have always appreciated their team's quick responsiveness in ensuring needs are met and families are equipped with critical necessities, even with large items such as beds, quickly in emergencies. We have the utmost confidence when we reach out to them with a request, that the request will be fulfilled quickly and efficiently.

Foster Village also provides critical community support through support gatherings, foster parent night outs, seize the play days, community events, and trauma-informed trainings. We've recently had the opportunity to invite Foster Village to lead a Life in Limbo training for our foster families and staff which was well received by all.

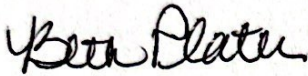
Foster Village's Partners in Permanency Program has been integral in another layer of support in walking alongside foster families and reunifying families as they build relationships with each other and work through transition plans in the best interest of children. Their resource center play studios have served as a trauma-informed environment where supervised visitations are able to occur as part of the reunification plan.

There are also critical gaps in resources for post-adoptive families and we are glad for organizations such as Foster Village Austin who provide on-going opportunities for support.

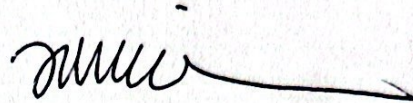
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Since 2016, Foster Village has demonstrated a consistent commitment to ensuring that children, youth and families have the opportunity to connect with a village of support. We are encouraged to hear that more space is possible, as that translates to more families having their needs met. We look forward to celebrating with Foster Village in their success and what that will mean for better supported foster, adoptive, kinship and reunifying families in our community.

Cordially,



Beth Plater
Board President



Tania Leskovar-Owens
Chief Executive Officer



Kristi Duck
Director of Foster and Adoption Services