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April 26, 2012

**Santa Barbara
Rape Crisis Center****Centro Contra
la Violacion Sexual***Programs & Services**24-hour Hotline**Crisis Intervention**Medical & Legal Advocacy**Accompaniment**Counseling**Self-Defense Classes**Prevention Education**Training & Consultation*

Dear Supervisors Carbajal, Farr and Wolf,

Thank you for all your work and support of Santa Barbara Rape Crisis Center (SBRCC). This letter is pertaining to the recent funding allocation recommended by the commissioners of Santa Barbara Community Development Block Grant Division (CDBG) Public Services Program. This year SBRCC was not recommended to receive funding. We respect the recommendation moved forward by the commissioners, however, we would like to be reconsidered for funding in the next fiscal year 2012/2013. SBRCC seeks funding for the Sexual Assault Counseling Programs; these funds partially pay for our counseling supervisor, Marilyn Goldman. As a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, she has been with our agency for more than 30 years. Ms. Goldman is an expert in the field of sexual assault. These funds ensure the integrity, quality and oversight of the counseling programs which are offered to the community.

During the interview, the commissioners expressed various questions pertaining to the program and agency budget. For example, they had inquired why fundraising was not specifically conducted for the counseling program. SBRCC conducts its fundraising for the entire agency and then these monies are diverted to each program. SBRCC believed the questions were answered at the time of the interview, and an additional e-mail was provided to the commissioners with further information. The commissioners asked questions pertaining to the measurable outcomes of the program. The projected outcomes of these programs are measured by the number of counseling hours rendered to sexual assault survivors and their families. They had questions about the unit of service rendered to clients. It is sometimes a challenge quantifying the success of counseling services to sexual assault survivors because every survivor come to us at different stages in their healing process and success may be recognized differently for each client.

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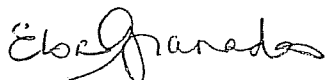
Your generosity will live on when you remember Santa Barbara Rape Crisis Center in your will.

Although, there was no representative of SBRCC present at the allocation deliberation meeting. However, please note that if a representative had been available, the process usually does not allow for the person to provide the commissioners with clarification. At this meeting it was communicated to SBRCC that some commissioners did not feel satisfied with the interview. SBRCC has received CDBG funding since it began in 2007-2008. SBRCC has applied for funding for the same position and not receiving funding for 2012/2013 may have a negative impact on the program. Please review the following information indicating the funding in past years. This includes the original amount requested, the amount recommended by the commissioners within the CDBG Annual Action Plan and the final amount secured:

Year	Program Title	SBRCC Requested	Recommended	Secured Amount
2007-2008	Long Term Counseling Program	\$60,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
2008-2009	Long Term Counseling Program	\$30,000	\$5,272	\$5,272
2009-2010	Sexual Assault Counseling Program	\$15,000	\$5,101	\$5,101
2010-2011	Sexual Assault Counseling Program	\$15,000	\$5,788	\$5,788
2011-2012	Sexual Assault Counseling Programs	\$12,000	\$6,000	\$5,479
2012-2013	Sexual Assault Counseling Programs	\$15,000	0	0

The funds above are critical to SBRCC. Although SBRCC has an array of funding during these challenging economic times, losing a funding stream has a detrimental effect on services rendered to sexual assault survivors who have been impacted by this crime. Sexual assault is one of the most underreported crimes. In addition, this is a crime that impacts everyone, either directly or through someone that they know. Sexual assault is destructive to the lives of survivors, their families and friends, and to our community. This is why it is critical for SBRCC to be reconsidered for funding to ensure services continue and are of the best quality. We appreciate your time reading this document and your consideration.

Sincerely,



Elsa Granados
Executive Director