



LEGAL AID FOUNDATION

of
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

301 E. Canon Perdido St.
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
Phone: 805.963.6754
Fax: 805.963.6756

301 S. Miller St., Ste. 121
Santa Maria, CA 93454
Phone: 805.922.9909
Fax: 805.347.4494

604 E. Ocean Ave., Ste. B
Lompoc, CA 93436
Phone: 805.736.6582
Fax: 805.740.2773

EQUAL ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR ALL

Board of Supervisors
Santa Barbara County
Santa Barbara, California 93101

STAFF

Ellen M. Goodstein, Esq.

Executive Director

Yvonne Cudney, Esq.

Sargent Shriver Project

Manager

Alexander Lambrous, Esq.

Director of Litigation

Niki Chopra Richardson

Development Director

Brandi Redman

Senior Staff Attorney

Ronald K. Perry

Supervising Attorney, LRC

Elizabeth Diaz, J.D.

Supervisor, DV Project

Mischa Barteau

Attorney, LRC

David Kelly

Attorney, LRC

Tanya Villegas

Staff Attorney

Corrie Arellano

Staff Attorney

Leroy Gee

Staff Attorney

Jacqueline Hall, Esq.

Pro Bono Coordinator

Emily Allen

Managing Attorney,

SB-HELP

Claire Magee

Paralegal

Biannet Garcia

Santa Maria Office Mgr.

DV Coordinator

Patricia Carlyon

Intake Paralegal

Alma Salinmas

Intake Coordinator

Merceditas Lazaro

Bi-lingual Legal Asst.

Anna Rounds

Intake Coordinator

Jamie Green

Intake Coordinator

Susana Udden

Office Administrator

May 9, 2012

Dear Board of Supervisors,

The Legal Aid Foundation of Santa Barbara County supports the proposed merge of Bringing Our Community Home (The Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness), the Homeless Advisory Committees, and Common Ground Santa Barbara.

It is critical that we streamline and improve cross-sector coordination of homeless services in Santa Barbara County. As the 2010-11 Grand Jury Report on Homeless Mentally Ill Indigent Recidivism illustrates, there is an identified need for centralized coordination among public and non-profit resources in order to more effectively prevent and reduce homelessness in our community.

The Legal Aid Foundation of Santa Barbara County is focused on preventing homelessness and assisting with income maintenance to move people out of homelessness. As part of the proposed re-organization we will be involved in this collaborative effort by participating in the coordinating committee. We believe that the new structure establishes a clear avenue for members of the public and concerned advocates to provide direct input to policymakers at the Leadership Council meetings during public comment.

We urge you to take the necessary steps to make changes to existing ordinances or create new ones to codify this new structure; and to find matching funds in the coming fiscal cycle for the



County's share to establish the centralized infrastructure and dedicated staffing for this effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ellen M. Goodstein". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".

Ellen M. Goodstein, Esq.
Executive Director