

November 16, 2007

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to express the importance of having the Covenant to Care organization. They have countless times, allowed us to put a smile on our client's faces, or bring a small sense of relief, and have given us, as the workers, opportunities to feel we are making a difference, in an often thankless role.

This organization not only provides the material things we sometimes need to help our clients, but more importantly, keeps the community aware of the difficulties our clients face, the work in which we as the social workers need to do and makes their issues "real". The communication we have with our churches allows us to talk about the issues our clients are facing, as well as the struggles we as the workers face in helping them, and helping to remove some of the stereotypes the community has of our clients, and our work. I myself, through my work the past few years have had people say to me that they didn't realize how truly difficult it is for our clients to change and improve their and their children's lives and the obstacles our society places in the way to not only them, but to us as the social workers. There is a better understanding that our clients do really try to improve their lives, and it was not a choice they made to be in these circumstances, and that even the smallest gestures have made the biggest differences. Some of the things I have been able to provide to clients include, a prom dress; household items for a mom starting a new life, in a new apartment she was able to obtain; bedding items; summer camp opportunities; clothing for a parent interviewing for jobs; baby gates for a new parent; financial help for a family whose home burned down; financial help for a rental deposit for a family for reunification; a drum set and lessons for a talented little boy; a guitar for a child who had to leave his behind and lessons. These are just a few of the many things I have been able to do with my church, and have received quickly. I have the ability to contact my church in emergency situations, and can receive a response in sometimes a few hours. In addition, my church hosts a Christmas Party for 20 foster children. Every year, there is a child that is sad, or withdrawn, and every year, that child walks out with a smile, looking forward to next year. The congregation puts their heart and soul into this event, and it shows, in the volunteer's enthusiasm and the smiles and excitement of the children.

I truly hope that this program can continue. I have been working with a rather small congregation, but they are truly committed to their work with Covenant to Care, and try to do all they can for my clients, and the community. I recognize the difficulty of maintaining an organization like this in our world today, but the effort is truly worth it, and the coordinator we are currently working with, Meral Prewitt, has been truly

committed to her job and has brought new enthusiasm and supports to us. I look forward to my work with Covenant to Care, because it allows me to provide a little extra to my clients, who truly appreciate what they receive.

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