7.25.22

Tree Clemonds

Providence Housing Development Corp.

1150 Buffalo Road

Rochester, NY 14624

Dear Ms. Clemonds,

I am writing to offer support to the Door of Hope rapid rehousing program funded by the American Rescue Plan Act. The Center for Youth Services serves hundreds of homeless youth and young adults annually across our wide continuum of services, including emergency shelter and transitional housing. While we housed over 75 young adults in our Rapid Rehousing Program each year, many more go unserved due to not fitting HUD’s definition of homelessness. These young people are then left to fend for themselves, often ending up in dangerous situations and relationships. We are excited about the prospect of a Rapid Rehousing program in our community that will not have such barriers for young people fleeing domestic violence or human trafficking.

When eligible, we will offer the following services to program participants at Door of Hope between January 2023 and December 2026:

* Prevention Counseling
* Food Pantry & Clothing Bank (no requirements/barriers for access)
* Crisis Nursery (free, easily accessible emergency childcare)
* Safe Harbour Services (advocacy and case management for victims of human trafficking)

In addition, if we receive calls from persons fleeing domestic violence or human trafficking and we are unable to assist them with housing, we will contact Door of Hope at Providence Housing for availability and eligibility.

We look forward to working with you.

Valerie Douglas

Director of Counseling & RHY Services