



March 21, 2018

Surinder Singh
County of Sacramento
Department of Community Development
827 7th St.
Sacramento, Ca 9814

PLNP 2018 - 00063

Mr. Singh,

I wanted to thank you and Mr. Pahule for recognizing the resource that Grace House provides to residents of Sacramento County and working with us to continue to serve and change lives. As many of our support letters indicate, we try to do things in a professional manner; we provide a safe, clean, drug and alcohol free home for folks that have made the decision to change their lives and to work toward becoming productive members of the community again. Our success rate is well known by the recovery and re-entry world and we receive many referrals from different Sacramento County agencies and local social service agencies. We do all of this at no cost to the County since we are a self pay home or provide scholarship beds to persons with no income. Intertwined with drug and alcohol issues are homelessness issues. Sacramento County is spending millions of dollars to address the issue of homelessness. Since a good number of folks that come to Grace House for recovery are homeless, we are making a difference with the homeless issue at absolutely no cost to the county. We have taken over 20 homeless people off the street in Citrus Heights alone in the last 8 years. We currently have four people living and thriving at Grace House that were previously homeless and battling addictions from Citrus Heights. Citrus Heights HART, a community based organization that addresses the homeless problem in our community works closely with Grace House and just started helping financially an individual in recovery. We are working closely with the Sacramento Regional Conservation Corps to provide education, job training and job placement for our residents between the ages of 18 and 25.

I have only touched on a few of the issues and solutions that we are involved with. We recognize that there are a significant number of so called sober living homes that are nothing more than flop houses that create more problems than they solve but we sincerely believe that we provide a very real and needed resource to Sacramento County.

Sincerely,

Patrick Miller

Grace House
6121 Marwick Way
Carmichael, CA 95608
(916) 470-0408



SCOTT R. JONES
Sheriff

COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO

Inter-Department Correspondence

Date: August 2, 2017

To: RHONDA SANDOVAL
GRACE HOUSE REST, RECOVERY AND
SOBER LIVING

From: DEPUTY LEROY BAKER #970
RE-ENTRY COORDINATOR
HOME DETENTION DETAIL

Subject: **RESIDENTIAL ON-SITE CHECK**

I just wanted to say thank you for the tour of your "compound" you have there. The welcome I received there was great. The professionalism of you and your staff had surpassed that of any other Clean and Sober Living facility I have ever visited. I was impressed with your organization, site size, and overall cleanliness of the site. I can honestly say in my opinion, that the Grace House has been by far the best Clean and Sober Living Program house I have ever been to. I hope to be in contact with you for future clients and keep up the good work you guys are doing there.

PLNP 2018 - 00066

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MAR 21 2018

County of Sacramento
Department of Community Development
Planning and Environmental Review Division

DIVISION OF ADULT PAROLE OPERATIONS
SACRAMENTO METRO PAROLE UNITS 1 AND 4
8000 ELDER CREEK RD
SACRAMENTO, CA 95824



To Whom It May Concern;

October 4, 2017

Mario Moreno has been living at Grace House since May 18, 2017. In the time Mr. Moreno has been there he has been compliant with parole and has found a stable environment to live in. Mr. Moreno could not have done this without the assistance of the staff at Grace House. In the time before Mr. Moreno found his way to Grace House he was continually absconding parole and running from the police. Today Mr. Moreno has a stable residence and is gainfully employed. Mr. Moreno has also learned to give back to the community as part of his requirement for staying at Grace House is to volunteer in the community.

As his Parole Agent I am grateful that I know where Mr. Moreno is on a daily basis and that he is doing what he is supposed to be doing. If you have any further questions please feel free to contact me at 916-633-9565.

Parole Agent I
Phillip Walker

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Phillip Walker", is written over the printed name.

PLNP 2018 - 00066

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County of Sacramento
Department of Community Development
Planning and Environmental Review Division



Our mission is to provide resources that will enable people experiencing homelessness in Citrus Heights and adjacent areas to become independent, self-sustaining and productive members of the community.

February 27, 2018

Leighann Moffitt
Community Development Department
Planning and Environment Review Division
827 7th Street Room 225
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Grace House

PLNP 2018 - 00066

Dear Leighann,

I hope all is well with you. I'm writing today on behalf of Citrus Heights HART regarding Grace House in Carmichael. Citrus HART formed in 2015 to assist our City and Police Department with strategies and solutions for our homeless and at-risk population. We have run two successful Stand Down events for our at-risk veterans and two seasons of Winter Sanctuary. We support the City's homeless outreach navigator and this year we will be holding our first Student Connect to assist our 800 students that lack permanent housing.

One thing we lack here in Citrus Heights is housing. We are working with Sac Self Help Housing to locate two transitional homes here. We are also supporting a TLCS (mental health services) multi-family project. Right now, we are fortunate to be able to support Grace House. The board recently approved a donation of \$800 to Grace House to support a guest that came out of our winter sanctuary program. We intend to provide additional funding to Grace House to support homeless individuals that meet the guidelines to participate in their program.

Grace House is a magnificent resource and is changing lives by providing a safe, clean sober living environment at no cost to the public sector. Patrick Miller has been volunteering and participating in CH HART from the beginning and is a treasured resource for our organization.

We encourage Sacramento County to support this resource, so they can continue to have a positive impact in reducing homelessness in our community. Thank you for taking time to consider our support.

Regards,

Kathlynn Carpenter
Board Chair, Citrus Heights HART

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County of Sacramento
Department of Community Development
Planning and Environmental Review Division

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MAR 21 2018

Lisa Cigelske
6134 Marwick Way
Carmichael, CA 95608

County of Sacramento
Department of Community Development
Planning and Environmental Review Division

June 27, 2017

PLNP 2018 - 000003

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to as a longtime resident of Marwick Way, approximately 25 years, and in particular the location which currently houses Grace House. When Steps to Freedom first opened up, I thought it would be a great addition to have a 'clean and sober' house the neighborhood. After all, the 'owner' told me they would be volunteering in the neighborhood, helping the elderly, assisting with odd jobs and generally be a nice, quiet neighbor. Well, that did not happen, in fact FAR from it. I frequently saw medical personnel there due to extremely troubling situations; situations that should not be happening in a 'clean and sober' environment. I quickly became a disbeliever of this so called 'clean and sober' house, as did many neighbors.

Fast forward to today, I have noticed a vast improvement in the house and the residents. I have not seen any emergency personnel, no fights or yelling, and definitely not quite as many shady people hanging around. I have also noticed the resident population appears to be down, which is a relief. It appears the people there are really trying to make better choices in life. It is refreshing to see the children some weekend mornings after sleeping over with their parents and other children, a big slumber party. I'm sure the children really enjoy getting to spend time with their previously absent parent. I hope Grace House continues the direction they are going.

As a longtime resident of the neighborhood, I would like to see some more community involvement with the residents, as much as allowed based on their program and/or steps. Maybe they can organize some type of block party for the area to introduce themselves and the residents to everyone, show us that they are nothing like Steps to Freedom. If we are able to meet some of these people, maybe the neighborhood would be willing to help out with odd jobs for the residents at times. I know I personally do not like doing my yard work and would be willing to offer the residents an opportunity to possibly earn some money while learning about responsibility and dependability. But, first I need to feel as if they are trustworthy and want to put forth the effort.

Thank you for taking the time to read my thoughts and suggestions.

Lisa Cigelske



4/5/2017

PLNP 2018 - 00066

Grace House Board,

I have been very fortunate to have the opportunity to work with Rhonda at Grace House, where my patient was accepted and housed there. Our patients are in dire need of a safe and supportive living environment, which they are able to obtain at Grace House and we are very appreciative. Thank you again and I look forward to continuously working with your agency.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A Khang".

A Khang, MSW
Social Worker
E-mail: akhang@rcmg.com
Phone: (916) 573-3574

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County of Sacramento
Department of Community Development
Planning and Environmental Review Division





35th Anniversary
Transforming Lives,
Cultivating Success

Transforming and empowering the lives of people with mental illness by
supporting independence and preventing homelessness.

March 16, 2017

Re: Grace House

PLNP 2018 - 0 0 0 6 6

To Whom It May Concern

My name is Robert Johnston and I work for TLCS Inc. as their Alcohol and Drug Counselor. This is a relatively new position with TLCS however, I have over 16 years experienced in this field. My sole purpose is to help individuals who suffer with a mental illness along with a drug or alcohol addiction, in helping them find a new way of life without the use of drugs or alcohol. Throughout my experience in this field I have found that sober living communities such as Grace House are invaluable to the individual building a support network of sober friends, as part of their recovery plan. I have been working closely with Grace House this past year, placing our clients into this community. The services that Grace House offers their members are, in my opinion outstanding. The management and staff are truly involved with the members on a daily basis in helping them in their early stage of recovery. I have had the pleasure of sitting in on a weekly house meeting and witnessed the compassion and empathy the staff has with the members. Clients I have placed at Grace House absolutely love the amount of support they receive and are excited to be involved with the community outreach Grace House provides. Grace House is one of the best Sober Living Environments I have run across, and will continue to use them for a referral source.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Robert Johnston, CADC II
TLCS Inc. / New Direction
916-247-7384

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MAR 21 2018

County of Sacramento
Department of Community Development
Planning and Environmental Review Division

New Direction

650 Howe Avenue, Building 400-B, Sacramento, CA 95825
Phone: 916-993-4131 / Fax: 916-993-4886 / info@tlcssac.org
www.tlcssac.org

July 3rd, 2017

To Whom it may concern:

PLNP 2018 - 00066

I am writing this letter to share my experience with the family at Grace House. Every encounter I have had with them has been one of hospitality and generosity. I see a family who cares deeply for their community and who love people fiercely. They are always willing to serve and sacrifice what is needed to help those around them.

When I think of the family at Grace House, I see a family of faith who, through their struggles and hardships, help others to feel loved and give them a sense of hope. Their contribution to the community is priceless and, in my opinion, makes a huge impact in their neighborhood.

In my own personal journey as a single mom with limited income, Grace House has helped me in a time of need. I am humbled and grateful to be on the receiving end of their love and generosity.

I believe Grace House is an asset to the community and their presence makes the world a better place. They are a family with purpose who believe in love and second chances.

Sincerely,

Elicia Riggi
Director of Women's Ministries

Crossroads Christian Fellowship
5501 Dewey Dr.
Fair Oaks, Ca 95628
916-217-9410

10/31/2017

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To Whom It May Concern:

PLNP 2018 - 000066

MAR 21 2018

RE: Grace House

County of Sacramento
Department of Community Development
Planning and Environmental Review Division

My name is Darlene. I am a Reentry Specialist at RCCC. A client on my caseload is currently in the Grace House Program. Since she has been participating in the Grace House Program, I have seen her become tenacious, compassionate and an enriched parent. Grace house offers drug rehab treatment with organized plans that address clients individualized needs and continuity. Grace House began in 2009, and was previously named Steps to Freedom. I previously had a client on my caseload that successfully complete their program in 2016 and has maintained her sobriety with the knowledge and support of the program.

Grace house offers a "family" atmosphere which oftentimes substitutes as a positive support system for those who feel lost, or who have forfeited the trust of friends, and immediate family members. Grace house has been placed on the approved facility list for client's on house arrest to work on their recovery while completing their sentence. It is located in a beautiful neighborhood of Carmichael. It is one of the few facilities that offer co-ed services.

During my client check-ins, I have been very pleased with the quality of services, clean atmosphere and friendly staff. Grace house not only teaches individuals the importance of abstaining from drug or alcohol use, but they equip them with the necessary skills to create a new life. The program teamed up with Way Ministries, and is involved in giving back to the community. Helping others often times instills value, self-worth, and offers the opportunity to look outside of one's self, something most addicts are not familiar with.

I am please to say that I would recommend Grace House as an upstanding drug and alcohol recovery program. They offer the opportunity for addicts to change their lives. Change is not easy but with the tools and support offered at Grace House individuals can face the difficulty of recovery and leave with something to aids in shifting their lives into something rewarding. I can honestly say my client's life has changed and gained inner peace. She has become more mature, gained confidence, a sense of belonging and a purpose.

Sincerely,

PLNP 2018 - 000066

Darlene Estes
Marriage and Family Therapist Intern

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MAR 21 2018

County of Sacramento
Department of Community Development
Planning and Environmental Review Division

PLNP 2018 - 00036

Greetings,

Thanks so much for the help on my front yard! I am so grateful for your help and it's great to know that I have such wonderful neighbors.

All that I've met seem to have the common understanding that love and community matters most. It is a lesson that many people never learn. Often I feel that it is through facing the most difficult challenges of life is what enriches the soul and appreciation of one another. Thank you again.
Dana