

July 23, 2012

City of Madison
City Grant Committee

In Re: UNIDOS Against Domestic Violence
Grant Application

Dear Sir or Madam:

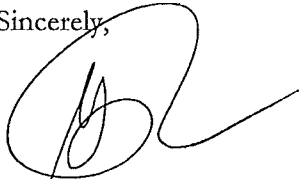
I am writing to support UNIDOS Against Domestic Violence's (UNIDOS) application for a grant from the City of Madison. My organization, RISE Law Center (RLC), works closely with UNIDOS in helping victims and survivors of domestic and sexual violence with their legal and other needs. UNIDOS is the only organization in the City of Madison which is culturally-specific for Latinos in need of these services. RLC has been working with UNIDOS since 2004 to provide *pro bono* or low cost services to Latinos victims and survivors of violence.

UNIDOS has a unique and exceptional program in Madison, Mujeres Adelante. This program helps survivors help victims overcome the violence they have been exposed to. In addition, UNIDOS hosts support groups for women at several stages of their recovery from domestic and sexual abuse. UNIDOS is a very important program in the community at large, and the Latino community specifically, since it provides full services in Spanish.

I am familiar also with other programs UNIDOS has done in the past, including trainings on healthy relationship at schools in the Madison Metropolitan School District, outreach to the community, legal information, and others. UNIDOS' mission supports an award for their voice and presence in the City of Madison to be even louder than it now is.

If you were to have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached at (608) 256-1015. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Grisel Santiago-Rivera
Managing Attorney
RISE Law Center



Madison Office:

307 S. Paterson Street, Suite F, Madison, WI 53703
Ph: (608) 256-1015

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Janesville Office:

One Parker Place, Suite 303B, Janesville, WI 53545
Ph: (608) 305-4240

info.riselaw@gmail.com

Stoiber, Jennifer

From: Patti Seger [pattis@wcadv.org]
Sent: Monday, July 23, 2012 12:50 PM
To: Stoiber, Jennifer
Cc: Cecilia Gillhouse
Subject: UNIDOS Against Domestic Violence


Dear Friends at the City of Madison,

As you are working to resolve funding issues for City Community Services, I urge you to consider strongly the asset of the culturally-specific services provided by UNIDOS Against Domestic Violence. UNIDOS is only 1 of two culturally-specific programs serving the Latino/a community in Wisconsin. Located in Madison, WI and primarily serving Madison victims, UNIDOS serves a population of victims which may not be as well served by any other services provider. The UNIDOS staff shares their expertise with the statewide community, always taking calls from across the state to assist local domestic violence/sexual assault providers to serve Latina victims and their children. UNIDOS is really a one-of-a kind organization, providing one of the most critical and life-saving services to a very underserved and growing population.

Please fully fund UNIDOS. The lives of so many depend on them.

My very best,

Patti Seger, Executive Director
Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence
608-255-0539 Fax/TTY 608-255-3560

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Mi nombre es Mary S. y no puedo ir a la reunion de esta tarde porque trabajo en las noches pero quiero expresar mi gratitud con el programa de UNIDOS por haberme proveido servicios desde 2009 y ayudarme a mi y a mi familia.

Se que este proceso es difícil y muchas organizaciones están en la misma situacion pero yo estoy viva y puedo contar mi historia gracias a que alguien me escucho en UNIDOS y me dieron oportunidad y apoyo. Por favor tengan consideración para darle fondos a UNIDOS y su programa porque lo necesitamos. No podemos hacerlo solas, necesitamos la ayuda. Llevo viviendo en Madison desde 1998 y se que es una ciudad que se preocupa por las familias residentes de la ciudad y eso hace que continúe aquí apoyando la ciudad también.

Por favor no olviden que los programas pequeños son los que mas sufren los cambios y la falta de dinero. Es muy difícil para nosotras conseguir otro programa como UNDIOS.

Muchas Gracias,

Maria S.
Madison, WI 53719

Letter to the City of Madison by Stella Cardozo

I am 61 years old and I am a survivor of sexual assault (3 to 14 years old) from my biological father. I came to United State with my family in 2001. In 2008, I started my participation in the Mujeres Adelante group and this changed my life. Now, I am part of the Sexual Assault Survivors and Allies Task Force of WI and I am active helping other women in the community. Please help us and considerate in funding UNIDOS, our program, because we won't be able to financially sustain our group if we don't have UNIDOS' staff helping us and supporting our work in the community.

I speak only Spanish but my grandchildren helped me in translate my note and I hope you have the opportunity of reading my message.

Thank you and with all my respect,

Stella Cardozo
Madison, WI 53713

Stoiber, Jennifer

From: Marsha Mansfield [mmmansfield@wisc.edu]
Sent: Monday, July 23, 2012 11:54 AM
To: Stoiber, Jennifer
Cc: Cecilia Gillhouse
Subject: Written remarks

Dear Ms. Stoiber,

I am writing with respect to the recommendations of the Community Services Committee for the 2013-14 Community Resources Funding for Domestic Violence, Crisis Intervention, Sexual Assault, and Safety and Support, Youth, Access to Resources, Children and Families, Workforce Preparedness and Employment, and Neighborhoods Program Areas. I am a member of the Board of UNIDOS Against Domestic Violence. I have been a Board member for approximately two years and am submitting my remarks in writing in lieu of appearing at today's meeting.

In my professional life, I direct a clinical program at the University of Wisconsin Law School, the scope of which includes serving victims of domestic violence. I can say with confidence that UNIDOS is a small organization that very effectively serves a large population in our city and our county. UNIDOS makes effective and efficient use of its resources. Cecilia Gillhouse, the Executive Director, works well with all of the stakeholders in the system, as well as with the community that this organization serves. This organization will make excellent use of the funding that it receives from the City as it is a leader in addressing family violence in the Latina community. Thank you for your attention to these remarks.

Marsha Mansfield

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Marsha M. Mansfield
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Director, Economic Justice Institute
University of Wisconsin Law School
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Madison, WI 53706
(608) 262-9142

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Stoiber, Jennifer

To: gladis@becrosscultural.com
Subject: RE: Reducti on funding

I am so sorry. My message was not completed. My commets related to funding cuts to Unidos! A very worthwhile program providing culturally competent services to the latino community

-----Original Message-----

From: Stoiber, Jennifer
To: 'gladis@becrosscultural.com'
Subject: RE: Reducti on funding
Sent: Jul 23, 2012 1:08 PM

Thank you. I will forward your comments to the Community Services Committee, although you do not specify which program you are in support of.

Jennifer Stoiber
Program Asst II
Community Development Division
608-267-1152

-----Original Message-----

From: gladis@becrosscultural.com [mailto:gladis@becrosscultural.com]
Sent: Monday, July 23, 2012 12:27 PM
To: Stoiber, Jennifer
Subject: Reducti on funding

I am requesting that yOu do not reduce the amount of the already limited funding that Sent from my U.S. Cellular BlackBerry(r) smartphone

Sent from my U.S. Cellular BlackBerry® smartphone