



August 4, 2017

Mayor Steve Jones and Members of the City Council City of Garden Grove
11222 Acacia Parkway
Garden Grove, CA 92840

SUBJECT: Application for Transitional Housing Grant Veterans Village I (Josephine Street)

Dear Mayor Jones and Members of the City Council:

Volunteers of America of Los Angeles (VOALA), supports the City of Garden Grove's initiative in applying for the Transitional Housing Grant related to the property located at Josephine Street. This initiative combines the resources and experience between Affordable Housing Clearinghouse ("AHC"), City of Garden Grove ("CoGG"), HEAL Collective ("HEAL"), and Volunteers of America of Los Angeles ("VOALA").

Volunteers of America of Los Angeles was founded in 1896 by Ballington and Maud Booth who envisioned a movement dedicated to "reaching and uplifting" all people. Later that year, VOA opened "Mission Hall" as a home for orphaned children in Downtown Los Angeles. VOALA has been serving people in Los Angeles and Orange County, and has been serving United States Veterans in Orange County since 2010. In 2013, VOALA opened a Veteran Services office in Santa Ana (2100 N. Broadway, Santa Ana, CA 92706), which helps Veterans and their families in Orange County obtain, and retain, stable housing and employment. Additionally, VOALA's Battle Buddy Bridge works with OC211 to provide services to Veterans requesting service through the OC211 telephone and web site portals. VOALA has also assisted Veterans with housing when asked by the Orange County Housing Authority that were housed at Susan Street and other locations.

Our vision for the City of Garden Grove's Transitional Housing Grant Veterans Village project is to have 14 individual beds available at the transitional living facility that will be located on Josephine Street. Each individual will be able to stay at the facility for a maximum of 24 months. The time period the individual stays is unique to each individual's needs and story. VOALA supports empowering each individual at this transitional housing facility through wrap around case management and strengths-based practices. VOALA is committed to providing on the on-site supportive services for this site, contingent on successful receipt of adequate funding to perform said services.

Sincerely,

Date: 8/7/17

Bob Pratt, President and CEO
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