

DEMARS GORDON
OLSON • ZALEWSKI

LAW FIRM

January 29, 2010

Senator Ben Nelson
United States Senate
720 Hart Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Nelson:

I am a former Chair of the Board of Directors of the Child Advocacy Center here in Lincoln. I am writing this letter to voice my support of the Center's application for federal funds with which to construct its new and expanded facility in Northeast Lincoln.

For almost a dozen years now, the Child Advocacy Center has exemplified the absolute best of interagency collaboration in the investigation of child abuse cases. Every day, the Center works closely with law enforcement, child protection and safety case workers, medical and mental health providers, and others, to provide direct services to child victims of abuse and their non-offending family members.

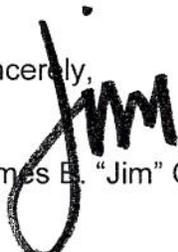
The Center actively assists in the investigation and prosecution of these very difficult cases. It does so by providing forensic interviews and medical evaluations, and the equally important ongoing support to the family. In its short but productive history, the Center has served more than 5,250 individual child victims of abuse. The majority of these children have been the victims of sexual abuse.

The Child Advocacy Center now has outgrown its beloved "Little Yellow House" in Antelope Park. Already the Center is under way with building an expanded facility in Northeast Lincoln. They have successfully raised more \$2,000,000 – privately in the community – and are requesting additional federal dollars from Housing and Urban Development, specifically for the co-location portion of the project. Co-location will enable law enforcement and protection and safety personnel to be located together on-site. Other child advocacy centers have developed such a co-located model. In doing so, coordination and communication have been significantly improved, resulting in better outcomes for the victims and their families.

My Law Firm and I have worked very closely with the Child Advocacy Center for years. We heartily support this application for funding.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have additional questions. Thank you for your help in this endeavor, Ben.

Sincerely,


James B. "Jim" Gordon