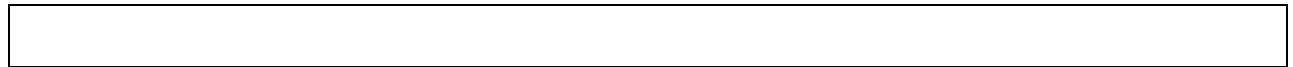




MARY OPEN DOORS
SERVING WOMEN & CHILDREN



Securing Permanent Facility Project Proposal for
Mary Open Doors Domestic Violence Shelter for Women



Date: August, 2016
Mary Open Doors
San Ignacio, Cayo District
Belize, Central America

Background and Introduction

Mary Open Doors is a registered non-profit corporation operating in San Ignacio Town, Cayo District since 2008. Since 2008, Mary Open Doors has provided rehabilitative accommodations to women and children fleeing domestic violence situations and provided education and awareness on the issues connected to domestic violence through its resource center. In addition, the resource center does small scale humanitarian assistance to women, men, and children at risk for domestic violence. Public awareness activities and trainings to community stakeholders are also a regular part of the organization's work in order to change public attitudes and perceptions that promote or tolerate domestic violence. To address attitudes and perceptions that promote domestic violence, Mary Open Doors has provided trainings to community members to bring public awareness on the issue of domestic violence.

Mary Open Doors (MOD) also works closely with the Police Department to provide support and assistance to women who make reports to the police about domestic violence and are undertaking the legal process. Its mission statement, vision statement and guiding principles are set out below:

Mission Statement

To provide rehabilitative accommodation services to women and children who are survivors of domestic violence that empowers them and improves their wellbeing.

Vision Statement

Survivors of domestic violence are empowered to leave domestic situations and take action that can lead to their recovery and rehabilitation.

Guiding Principles

Mary open door provides services that:

1. Respect basic values of human dignity
2. Respect integrity
3. Are provided in a non-discriminatory and nonjudgmental manner
4. Respect self-determination

Problem Statement Description

In 2005 there were 675 cases of domestic violence reported whereas in 2010 there were 1243 cases based on Ministry of Health data. The Cayo District has the second highest statistic country-wide for the incidence of domestic violence and the second highest number of femicides connected to domestic violence. At the time of its opening in 2008, MOD entered into an arrangement with the owner of the building and land on which the shelter is located to use the building as a shelter rent free until the owner had need of the property. The owner has now indicated in 2016 that the property will need to be sold but has given MOD first option to purchase. MOD welcomes the

opportunity to permanent own its own facilities and wishes to preserve the contacts, goodwill and security for its clients by remaining in the same location. There is now, therefore, a need to purchase the property.

Dynamics of Cayo District

Mary Open Doors is the only Domestic Violence shelter providing assistance to women in the Cayo district and is one of only 3 shelters in the entire country of Belize. Statistics show that domestic violence continues to be a permanent issue in Belize especially in rural and semi-rural communities. Statistics shows that from 2006 – 2014 a total of 96 women were killed in connection to domestic violence situations with 20 of those being killed in the Cayo District. Many of those women had no safe place to go to leave a domestic violence situation. In the Cayo District, having a rural shelter has helped to bring awareness about domestic violence issues and provided much needed assistance to women.

Achievements of Mary Open Doors (MOD)

- Between 2010 – 2015 temporary safe shelter provided to over 130 women
- In 2015 – 70 counseling and life-skills information sessions provided to women
- In 2015 – 50 women were assisted with Family Court Applications to protect them and their children from further violence
- In 2015 – 10 prevention and awareness activities were implemented in the Cayo District reaching over 200 women
- In 2015 – successful completion of project for renovation of the shelter facilities to add more beds and conduct repairs and maintenance

Project Summary

The current proposal seeks funding to purchase the land and building now currently occupied by MOD and used as its shelter facility.

Project Objectives

Goal

To provide a safe therapeutic environment for women who are survivors of domestic violence to receive training, psychosocial and legal support services.

Project Outcome and Outputs

Outcome 1

As a result of being able to purchase its own facility, MOD will provide women who are survivors of domestic violence with a safe and secure shelter where they can recover from domestic violence.

Output 1

To secure the purchase price for the land and building for MOD.

Output 2

To secure funding for the stamp duty needed to register the new title upon completion of purchase.

Output 3

To secure funding for legal fees and other closing costs associated with the purchase to ensure title held in the name of MOD.

Outcome 2

As a result of being able to purchase its own facility, MOD will be able to ensure that the repairs and upgrades made to the building for it to be an appropriate shelter facility continue to ensure for the benefit of clients and the sustainability of the organization.

Output 1

To consolidate upgrades and repairs that were made to the building to convert it to a shelter facility for the benefit of MOD as a capital asset to increase the overall financial standing of the organization

Output 2

To assess the value of the building and update accounting to include the purchased property as part of the assets and overall value of the organization.

Outcome 3

As a result of being able to purchase its own facility, MOD will be able to put in place more permanent rehabilitation and recovery services for clients without concern that items will have to be movable or temporary and will be able to make structural changes to benefit client recovery and safety.

Output 1

To facilitate reorganizing of services to establish more permanence for the facility and ensure a more therapeutic environment for women.

Output 2

To facilitate organizing of equipment and furniture to establish more permanence for the facility and ensure a more therapeutic environment for women.

Description of Program Activities:

Emergency Shelter/Short-Term Accommodation: Emergency shelter facilities for women for up to three weeks with accommodation, meals, clothes, primary medical care provided free of charge.

Life-skills and Personal Health and Care: Training on personal hygiene, life-skills, reproductive health.

Counselling and Psycho-social support: Basic counselling for trauma caused from domestic violence and rudimentary behavioral modification therapy.

Legal Information and Court Support: Basic information on obtaining protection orders, working with law enforcement, legal rights, rights over children, property and protection of human rights.

Childcare: Provision of food, shelter, supervision for children accompanying women in the shelter.

Permanent Living and Re-Integration: Helping women to reenter independent living and gainful employment.

Public Awareness and Education: Educating women and the general public on preventing domestic violence and providing support and intervention to survivors.

Skills Training: Providing basic job skill training to women at the shelter.

Collaboration

Since its inception in 2008, MOD has built partnerships with community stakeholders to facilitate its work and to provide a referral and assistance framework for women who are survivors of domestic violence.

MOD has effective partnerships with the Police and with DHS to ensure clients with children are able to access social work services. Women's Department collaborates closely with MOD to provide access to life-skills training and networking opportunities with other organizations working with women as well as technical capacity assistance for programs. The University of Belize provides interns to MOD to assist with provision of services at the shelter, MOH partners with MOD to provide access to medical care for women.

Evaluation

MOD has continued to improve its data collection and analysis of services provided. Measurement tools used for evaluation include evaluation forms when trainings are carried out, client satisfaction surveys, collection of testimonials and feedback from clients, pre-tests and post-tests, observation tools and staff and volunteer appraisals.

Formal program evaluations have been done in collaboration with university student volunteers and recommendations incorporated into current program implementation methodologies. MOD will continue these evaluation methods for this project and incorporate findings in a project report complete with pictures and financial reporting at the end of the project.

Sustainability

MOD is currently expanding its fundraising base in other areas including special events, individual giving and sponsorships especially from local businesses. In kind donations to the shelter are already well established with local food suppliers and service providers. These partnerships will continue.

Proposed Project Budget

Outcomes	Outputs	Budget Description	Total Budget
Outcome 1	1. Purchase price 2. Gov. Stamp Duty 3. Closing costs	1. \$27,500.00 2. 5% of \$27,500 =\$2,750.05 3. 1.5% of \$27,500 =\$2,750.15	\$33,000.20
Outcome 2	1. Consolidation of upgrades 2. Valuation of property	1. \$500.00 2. \$750.00	\$1,250.00
Outcome 3	1. Reorganizing of services 2. Reorganizing of equipment	1. \$500.00 2. \$750.00	\$1,250.00
Sub Total			\$35,500.20US
Less	Capital raised to date		(\$11,258.00)US
Balance	Capital need to raise		\$24,242.20US