



Board of Supervisors Memorandum

April 20, 2021

Donation of County Vehicle to the Children's Advocacy Center to Reach Underserved Child Abuse and Neglect Victims in Rural and Remote Communities of Pima County

Background

Enclosed is a letter from the Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) requesting a County asset for transportation. The Sheriff's Department and Fleet Services have identified a van that could be donated to the CAC for the purpose they requested. The vehicle was previously used by the Sheriff's Department to transport prisoners.

Both I and the Fleet Services Director believe this vehicle is appropriate to consider for transfer to CAC, which has a low residual value. The vehicle can be a candidate for transfer by unanimous vote of the Board of Supervisors to consider this property surplus and donate it to this nonprofit pursuant to Board policy.

Appropriate Board direction is necessary for this transaction to occur.

Recommendation

I recommend the Board of Supervisors consider the 2011 Chevy Express 3500 surplus property and donate it to the Children's Advocacy Center for reaching underserved victims in rural and remote communities of Pima County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C.H. Huckelberry".

C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator

CHH/anc – April 8, 2021

Attachments

c: The Honorable Chris Nanos, Pima County Sheriff
Jan Leshner, Chief Deputy County Administrator
Ray Ochotorena, Director, Fleet Services



March 23, 2021

Sheriff Chris Nanos
Pima County Sheriff's Department
1750 E. Benson Highway
Tucson, AZ 85714

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Marie Fordney

Dear Sheriff Nanos:

As you know, the Children's Advocacy Center of Southern Arizona (CAC) was established in Tucson in 1996 to address systematic problems of coordination and care for child abuse cases in Pima County. The CAC provides professionally coordinated, bilingual services to support families and to investigate and prosecute child abuse and neglect. Following national standards, our dedicated, certified professional staff provides forensic interviews, connection to resources, and medical services in a single youth-friendly location. Research clearly shows that utilization of the CAC model reduces victim stress while also increasing the rate of substantiated cases referred for prosecution.

Unfortunately, there is immense disparity in access to trauma-informed, culturally responsive, bilingual CAC services. Pima County covers over 9,000 square miles and includes several small communities where citizens do not have the ability to travel to Tucson for services. I am writing to ask for a van to help the CAC reach underserved victims in rural and remote communities of Pima County. This van is the first step to creating a Mobile Advocacy Center that will bring the work of Advocates, Interviewers, and Forensic Examiners into the community, to meet victims where they are comfortable.

The CAC is already working to build partnerships in rural communities to establish safe locations for victim services. Once the van is ready, staff will be scheduled at these locations to provide safety, compassion, and healing. A community outreach campaign will be launched to ensure victims as well as staff from child welfare and law enforcement in every jurisdiction know that they have access to CAC services. With your help, high quality, coordinated investigative and support services can be provided for all victims of child abuse and neglect, regardless of where they live.

Please feel free to contact me at mfordney@soazadvocacy.org or by phone at (520) 724-2119 if you have any questions or would like to discuss this request in greater detail. I look forward to working with you and your team on this important project.

Sincerely,

Marie Fordney

Where abuse ends and healing begins

2329 East Ajo Way • Tucson, Arizona 85713
(520) 724-6600 • Fax (520) 724-2174 • www.soazadvocacy.org

Attachment

