

FOUNDATIONS HOUSE, INC

Life and Social Skills
Parenting Educations
Positive Role Models
Community Intervention



February 4, 2008

Brian O'Connell, City Planning Commission
730 Washington Avenue
Racine, WI

Dear Mr. O'Connell:

Thank you very much for the opportunity to present a solution to a problem that affects our community and city, teen pregnancy. As heard and seen from teen moms during the hearing for Conditional Use Permit at 1508 W.6th Street a solution is within Foundations House Maternity Home (FHMH).

I would like to take the opportunity to stress the "*peculiar circumstance*" of the location for FHMH. There are currently 3 center operated daycare facilities within a 2-3 block radius, two bus lines and a bus depot for connecting to buses, two out of four local high schools, 3 blocks away from Children's Service Society that has agreed to offer counseling, Church facilities that will soon offer youth services that shall include recreation, mentorship, entrepreneurial activities, life skill classes and more. These services are peculiar for our location because it can not be found within any other community.

Our program encourages *independent living skills* so that the teen moms can learn to take their children to daycare themselves, go to school, and receive the necessary skills they need from the community they live in. At this time FHMH has already entered into *contractual agreement* with JAAZ, LLC for an '*option to purchase*' at the property. Because FHMH is a new program we were not able to purchase as a start-up Non-profit. I have personally assumed financial responsibility since January 2008. Because of this agreement it hinders my personal ability to purchase another home in a different location.

I know that Foundations House Maternity Home would be an effective program *if given the opportunity*. As stated during the hearing, State licensing requires strict regulations for programming and operation, rules I am familiar with as a Foster Parent of two teen mothers. I have had a total of four teen mothers at a time, and it's a lot of work- by myslef! I would love the opportunity to help these young girls on a much larger scale, however with others help.

I look forward to meeting on February 13, 2008 to discuss hopefully recommendations for making Foundations House Maternity Home a reality, now in its proposed location. If you have

Foundations House Maternity Home
Building a strong foundation for a brighter future among
today's teen parents
Tessa Brown, B.A.
Executive Director

1508 West 6th Street
Racine, WI. 53403

262-939-5939

mstessabrown@yahoo.com



any questions please feel free to contact me at (262) 939-5939. Thank you again for your time and effort in fulfilling the vision of this project.

Sincerely,

Tessa Brown

Tessa Brown