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Dept of Public Works

April 20, 2011

Dear Mr. Eeg and Racine City Council,

Please accept this request for your approval to lease space at the City Hall Annex building, to the Women's Resource Center(WRC). This space would be utilized for the Hand to Hand Safe Exchange and Supervised Visitation Program of WRC.

Hand to Hand is a program that offers exchanges of children within families that have current restraining orders between parents or where other court orders exist that require parental supervision when visiting with their children. Usually these court orders are present in cases where there is a history of domestic violence and/or sexual assault. The children and non-offending parent are supported and provided a safety network while the other parent's right to visit with children is maintained. Women's Resource Center has been providing this service in Racine County for almost ten years and is proud to have partnered since the beginning with the Racine County Court system, all local law enforcement agencies and Racine County on this endeavor. There are rare opportunities, and this is certainly one of them, that a local non-profit can partner with the City in a relationship that is not based solely in funding. It would be a great chance for Women's Resource Center to utilize a City resource to provide excellent programming.

We are most especially excited about this possible space as it is located next to the Racine Police Department, across the hallway from the municipal court and in a building that provides other services so as not to stigmatize families using this service and yet offer visibility to local law enforcement for safety sake. WRC would be interested in entering into a lease as soon as May 15<sup>th</sup> or anytime feasible after then.

Women's Resource Center wholeheartedly appreciates the Council's consideration of this request. If you have further questions, or would be interested in a presentation and/or tour of WRC's other offices, please feel free to contact me at (262) 633-3274 or via email at [wrcrc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wrcrc@sbcglobal.net).

Thank you again,

Cherie A. Griffin  
Executive Director