



CITY OF WASILLA

290 E. HERNING AVE.
WASILLA, ALASKA 99654-7091
PHONE: (907) 373-9050
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INFORMATION MEMORANDUM NO. 95-46


From: Mayor Stein
Date: November 22, 1995
Subject: Big Brothers/Big Sisters

I received the attached letter and enclosures from Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Anchorage asking for help in establishing a Mat-Su branch office. In light of the high level of interest in youth programs, their request may be timely.

Their annual report shows a variety of funding sources with government grants accounting for about 10%. The budget proposed for the Mat-Su program is in the neighborhood of \$50,000 annually.

I am referring this request to the Mat-Su Children's Task Force for their advice.

I would appreciate your thoughts on how the City might support a valley Big Brother/Big Sister program.



John C. Stein, Mayor



BIG BROTHERS/ BIG SISTERS of Anchorage

1057 W. Fireweed Lane, Suite 202
Anchorage, Alaska 99503
Phone: (907) 278-2621
Fax: 263-2099

November 20, 1995

RECEIVED

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City of Wasilla, Alaska

1995

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Mayor John Stein
City of Wasilla
Wasilla, AK 99654-7091

Dear Mayor Stein:

I'm writing to request your help in exploring the potential for a Big Brothers/Big Sisters branch in the Mat-Su Valley. You were recommended to me by Jim Clark who is currently helping us to establish a branch office in Kenai/Soldotna.

We frequently receive calls from single parents in Wasilla, Palmer, and Talkeetna, asking for our services for their children. (Although these calls have been exclusively from moms, we do have dads and grandparents in our program here in Anchorage.)

Up to now we have to tell people that we do not have the resources to extend our services to The Valley, but in fact, we *would* be interested in operating a branch office in Mat-Su *if* that were the desire of citizens of the area, *and* the funding were available to hire a Big Brothers/Big Sisters caseworker, from the Valley, based in The Valley, to do the screening, matching, supervising and supporting of those Matches.

Two years ago the Mat-Su Valley Children's Task Force asked us to talk with them about the possibility of a branch office and they appointed a two-person ad-hoc committee to explore the idea, but due to various reasons, this committee has not been able to follow up. However, for more than a year we have been meeting periodically with some other folks interested in having the services of a carefully supervised, mentoring, adult companionship program for the kids in the Mat-Su Valley, but we have yet to get very far past the talking and Volunteer Orientation stage. (We are now in the process of screening and accepting several volunteers and potential "Littles" from Wasilla and Palmer, but are yet to complete any Matches.)

What is needed now is to get together a more official on-going, action-oriented group who will have the ability to be an advisory group, help with recruitment of volunteers and secure the funding necessary to establish a viable branch if this proves to be a priority.

Based on the budgets we've recently developed for a branch we are contemplating in Kenai, an annual budget of \$50,000 is probably a realistic beginning. Some of this, of course could be "in-kind" as donated office space, shared telephone lines, copier and other equipment is certainly possible.

Another exploratory meeting is planned for 6 PM, Tuesday, November 28th at the Cottonwood Creek Mall. This group is being called together by Gail Longval, 373-4033. Address: HC 33 Box 3208 HH, Wasilla, 99654. It would be wonderful if your administration were interested and able to send a representative.

I would also like to meet with you if you personally would be interested in facilitating this process, or could give us some advice. Jim Clark assures me you're the person to talk to!

I am enclosing some information about our program, a little bit about what's happening in Central Kenai, and a copy of an early memo to our Board of Directors regarding the possibility of extending service to Mat-Su.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lanie Fleischer".

Lanie Fleischer
Executive Director

Program Revenues and Expenses

Below is a summary of the agency's actual income and expenses for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1995, as they appear in the preliminary audit report prepared by Patrick Meaux, CPA. We are pleased to report that we were again able to increase revenues to keep pace with the needs of our growing program. New revenues included a grant from Rasmuson Foundation and a Community Development Block Grant from the federal government.

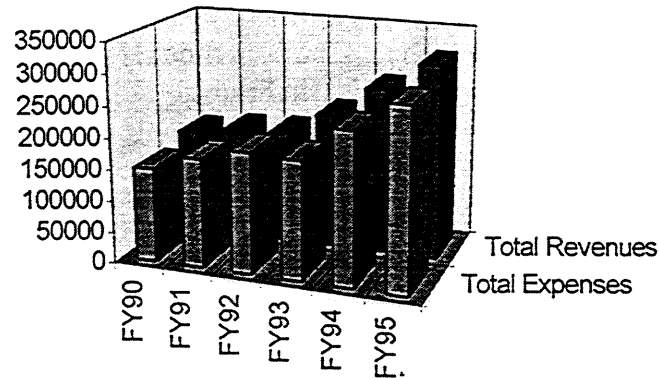
PROGRAM REVENUES

Government Grants	\$ 29,446
United Way of Anchorage	79,560
Foundation Grants	8,319
Associated Organizations	652
Event Fundraising	91,241
Corporate & Individual Contributions	30,180
Interest & Dividends	2,874
Gaming & Misc.	68,143
TOTAL REVENUES:	<u>310,415</u>

PROGRAM EXPENSES

Salaries	147,326
Payroll Taxes & Benefits	40,346
Professional Fees & Insurance	15,108
Supplies, Postage & Printing	12,617
Occupancy, Phone & Equip.	31,082
Travel	3,334
Trainings & Activities	6,735
Agency Dues	6,508
Taxes, Fundraising, & Awards	17,931
Depreciation & Misc.	5,226
TOTAL EXPENSES:	<u>286,213</u>

EXCESS REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	<u>24,202</u>
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FY95 Expense Breakdown

