Supporting Survivors • Strengthening Communities • Empowering Change

February 27, 2023

RE: Department of Justice Crime Victim and Survivor Services Division Budget

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of My Sisters' Place/My Safe Place, I am pleased to submit testimony in support of funding in the Department of Justice Crime Victim and Survivor Services Division Budget.

My Sisters' Place/My Safe Place provides safety, support and advocacy to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating abuse and stalking. MSP promotes a self-help philosophy that respects individual differences and encourages development of self-reliance. A cornerstone of our philosophy is respect for the survivor's rights.

I am the Coordinator for the Safety Classes. In 2022, I conducted 73 Safety Classes. The classes are done on a one-to-one basis via phone. The courts have directed them to take the class in order that the No Contact Order is lifted. While doing the classes and talking to the victims, their concerns are housing and what they will do once everything is taken care of. I would say 85% of the clients need a safe place to live.

I hope you will support the ongoing investment of a \$10 million increase in ODSVS funds and a continuation of \$6 million in Survivor Housing Funds in the CVSSD budget.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Vangie Eisenbarth

Safety Class Coordinator

Vangie Loisenbath

My Sisters' Place/My Safe Place