

October 13, 2011

Commissioner Beth Mills  
Department of Social Services  
Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government  
200 East Main Street  
Lexington, KY 40507

Dear Commissioner Mills,

Chrysalis House is a wonderful place for women and children to heal and grow. For the past seven years, Chrysalis House has received a \$500,000 grant each year from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). This grant provided for services to our pregnant and post partum women...helping babies be born to clean and sober women. Unfortunately, Chrysalis House was not funded in this 3-year cycle. This grant was a substantial source of our funding and the cut represents about 20% of our total funding. The competition was much greater due to nationwide state budget cuts, and interestingly, over 30% of the awards were made to California programs. No Kentucky programs were funded or re-funded. This, along with other reductions in grant sources, combined with the loss of the Bureau of Justice Assistance grant means that Chrysalis House needs your help to continue working with a very vulnerable population.

Chrysalis House is the only program in the region that provides residential treatment services for pregnant and postpartum women, and the only agency in central Kentucky in which children may accompany mothers to treatment. We prioritize admission of pregnant women and served over 40 pregnant women last year. The need was there to serve more if we had the bed space and funding. The Chrysalis House Board and staff are aggressively seeking other sources of funding and reducing or adjusting programming. Over the years, Chrysalis House has brought millions of dollars in SAMHSA grants into this community to provide services for women and their children--and we will continue to apply to SAMHSA in the future.

Chrysalis House received \$33,300 from LFUCG this fiscal year to fund a full-time therapist to work with our adolescents. We request your approval to use the remaining \$19,425 of these funds, as of mid-November, for our core programming—treating women with substance abuse and mental health disorders. Chrysalis House will continue working with the adolescents in our program through the transition period, making referrals as necessary. Please see attached information. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lisa Minton  
Executive Director