Wayne, Dina, Dylan, Robert and Talon Curtis
3685 Upton Street, NW
Washington, DC 20008-3126

The Curtis Family

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June 21, 2002

Mr. Geoffrey H. Griffis
Chairman of the Board
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, NW
Suite 210
Washington, DC 20001

RE: BZA Application 16836

Dear BZA Board Members:

We are but one of the families adjacent to the Washington Home and Hospice (Washington Home) Property, a/k/a BZA application 16836, that will be grossly affected by the current plans for expansion before your Board on June 25, 2002. We regret that after several efforts to get our good neighbors to communicate and share information, it has been at best an effort in futility. In light of the all day session I attended last Saturday at the City's Transit Oriented Development Community Training Workshop, we were further inspired to write this letter in opposition to the Washington Homes Application as it is currently proposed.

We are not simply objecting to what we do not want. It was our hope that the officials of the Washington Home would be more forthcoming so that we could amicably agree upon an option that was in the best interest of all good neighbors. If we heard the BZA correctly at the last meeting, you were hopeful that we could sit down as reasonable people and come to a workable solution; however, it takes two to tango. One issue that I am particularly struck by is the lack of any effort on the part of the Washington Home to take advantage of the excellent transit opportunities within 3-15 minutes walking distance of their front door (they are 1 block from Wisconsin Avenue bus routes; 4-5 blocks from Tenley Metro Station; and 5- blocks from the Van Ness Metro station). Their development objectives represent an excellent opportunity to support Mayor Williams' commitment to better neighborhood designs, particularly around a transit-oriented strategy. I submit this quote from the Mayor's Task Force on transportations:

> "Transit oriented development in the District of Columbia is a land use strategy to accommodate new growth, strengthen neighborhoods, and expand choices and opportunities by capitalizing on bus and rail assets to stimulate and support vibrant, compact, diverse and accessible neighborhood centers within an easy walk of transit."

The leadership for the Washington Home suggested that they could not aid their employees with transit subsidies because they cannot afford this from a cash flow basis. I question the validity of this claim.

The Washington Home's legal representative has implied that we do not view the residents of the Washington Home as neighbors. This is not true and the annual supports we make to the fundraising efforts of the Home definitively dispute this reference.

BZA
Case No. 16836
Exhibit No. 48

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 16836
EXHIBIT NO. 48

In addition, we have explored ways to volunteer our time as a family to the Washington Home and have met with minor challenges. These challenges, however, do not deter us from our compassion to the residents of the Washington Home nor our continued interest in outreach to our neighbors.

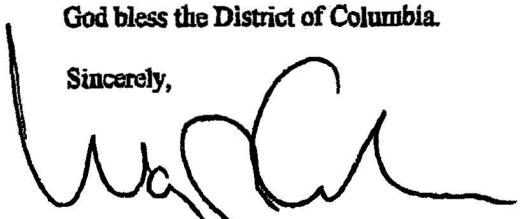
We urge the Board to look at the history of this institution going back to 1985 and a disturbing trend emerges. Act like you care about community input, then do what the heck you want because the authorities will simply write off the objections as "...there goes those folks in Ward 3 again..." Reject this application on its merit, or rather the lack thereof.

We hope you consider our views as neighbors of the Washington Home who have made a deliberate and committed effort to remain residents of the District of Columbia.

We are not simply opposing this case for some pristine reasons. Smart growth, balancing institutional and neighborhood interests and needs, and justifiable developments are all critical to the future and continued comeback of the District.

God bless the District of Columbia.

Sincerely,



Wayne R. Curtis
District Resident
3685 Upton Street, NW

FannieMae

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FAX TRANSMITTAL SHEET

DATE:	June 21, 2002
TO:	Mr. Geoffrey Griffis 727 634
FR:	Wayne R. Curtis Vice President, Partnership Investments
FAX #:	202 727 6072

Including this cover sheet, you should receive 3 transmitted pages.

If there are problems with this transmission, please call Cassandra Crudup-Young at (202) 752-5499.

RE: See you on Thursday!

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