STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF SPECIAL EXCEPTION RELIEF

This application seeks a special exception pursuant to the provisions of Sections 3104 and 209 of the Zoning Regulations to use the subject structure as a community center building. A special exception and variance from the parking requirements was first granted to this applicant by final order dated January 17, 1986. The same applicant was awarded a bench decision in 1991 extending its zoning authority to use the subject premises for its purposes for a period of ten years. That grant of authority has expired making this application necessary.

D.C. OFFICE OF ZONING
RECEIVED
2006 NOV 29 PM 12:43

The applicant, which is the owner of the building, uses it to operate a private, non-profit, social welfare organization known as The Family Place. This well known community resource provides family counseling, guidance and social services to predominantly expectant and new mothers of Hispanic origin in the surrounding Adams Morgan/Columbia Heights/Mt. Pleasant communities. The participants utilize its programs to enhance the lives of their families by attending positive parenting, computer, prenatal and English as a second language classes.

The Family Place was founded by members of the Church of the Savior and has been active in, and convenient to, this diverse community for over 20 years. It has been providing the aforementioned services at the present location since 1985. Its participants and many of its employees and board

BZA
Case No. 16910
Exhibit No. 3

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16910
EXHIBIT NO.3

members live in that community. They reflect the cultural and economic diversity of the neighborhood.

The operating parameters of The Family Place are amply set forth in BZA Order Nos. 14327 and 15530. The Applicant believes that it has demonstrated over the last 17 years that it can and will operate and maintain its premises in a way that will not affect adversely the use and enjoyment of neighboring property in accordance with the Zoning Regulations and Zoning Maps. For these reasons, the Applicant urges the Board of Zoning Adjustment to grant the requested special exception without further time constraints.