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CITY OF STAMFORD
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION

Mr. John J. Louizos, Chair
Members of the Board of Finance
City of Stamford, CT
P.O.Box 10152
Stamford, CT 06904

Dear Mr. Louizos and members of the Board of Finance,

The members of the Social Services Commission unanimously support the hiring of a Social Services Coordinator for the City of Stamford as presented by Mr. Ted Jankowski, Director of Public Health, Safety and Welfare 2015 budget. The elimination of this position in previous budget years has significantly reduced services to Stamford residents in need of assistance.

As members of the Social Services Commission, we can testify to the urgent need for a paid coordinator to assist the overly burdened social services department. A key role of the Social Service Coordinator is to organize, maximize and share resources with other social services agencies in the City. These not-for-profit agencies provide valuable support to our residents. Sadly, leaving the Coordinator position vacant over the last few years has significantly reduced opportunities to serve residents in need. Filling this role will benefit many residents by coordinating existing services, reduce redundant programming and identify gaps in service delivery. The benefits of re-hiring a Social Services Coordinator will undoubtedly exceed the investment in the position.

The members of the Social Services Commission appreciate your consideration. If you would like to discuss this further, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sandra Peterkin".

Sandra Peterkin
Chair, Social Services Commission
City of Stamford