

LETTERS OFFERING REFERRALS

(Letters from organizations recognizing the need for wheelchair ramps in their community and offering to provide the Texas Ramp Project with referrals.)



Spina Bifida Association of North Texas
P.O. Box 832006
Richardson, Texas 75083
Tel: 972.414.1772
www.sbanorth.org

January 3, 2006

Mr. John Laine
Dallas Ramp Project
P.O. Box 832006
Richardson, TX 75083

Subject: Texas Ramp Project

Dear Mr. Laine:

We have been made aware of your plan to expand the services of the Dallas Ramp Project statewide within Texas. The service that the project offers, free wheelchair ramps and handrails for needy handicapped residents, is one that is currently unavailable in our service area and is badly needed. We would be willing to supply referrals within our metropolitan area and to work with you to create this expanded organization locally. Our organization has chapters in Spina Bifida Association of North which covers several counties in North Texas, SBA of South Central which was formally the Austin and San Antonio and SBA of Gulf Coast which covers Houston and Galveston area who would benefit from your services. I am enclosing a chapter list to assist you in making these local contacts.

Sincerely,

Jay Barrett
President of SBA of North Texas
(Formally SBA of Dallas)



**Capital Area
Council of
Governments**

2512 IH 35 South
Suite 200
Austin, Texas 78704
512.916.6000
Fax 512.916.6001
www.capcog.org

Bastrop

Blanco

Burnet

Caldwell

Fayette

Hays

Lee

Llano

Travis

Williamson

Counties

January 10, 2006

Mr. John Laine
Dallas Ramp Project
P.O. Box 832006
Richardson, TX 75083

Dear Mr. Laine:

We have been made aware of your plan to expand the services of the Dallas Ramp Project statewide within Texas. The service that the project offers, free wheelchair ramps and handrails for needy residents with a disability, is one that is currently unavailable in our service area and is badly needed. We would be willing to supply referrals within our metropolitan area and to work with you to create this expanded organization locally.

Sincerely,

Glenda Rogers
Director of Aging Services



A Program of the North Central Texas Council of Governments

January 6, 2006

Mr. John Laine
Dallas Ramp Project
P.O. Box 832006
Richardson, TX 75083

Dear Mr. Laine:

I understand that you have an interest in expanding the scope of the Dallas Ramp Project, to include other Texas communities. We support you in this endeavor and offer assistance in identifying older homeowners with mobility impairments who are in need of ramps and cannot afford them.

Through our case management program, our agency serves older adults who are frail, have low incomes, limited family support, and financial hardship. Although we receive some federal and state funds for residential repair services, they're inadequate to meet the need. We assist approximately 60 clients each year with ramps, and have to decline at least that many prospective clients because of budget limitations.

According to the U.S. Bureau of the Census, 18% of older Americans have disabilities that impair function. There are approximately 200,000 older adults in the counties surrounding Dallas and Tarrant—and those numbers increase every day.

It would be our privilege to partner with Dallas Ramps—to identify persons who could benefit and work on building a local volunteer base.

Please let us know when and how we might assist.

Sincerely,

Doni Van Ryswyk
Manager of Aging Programs

616 Six Flags Drive, Centerpoint Two
P. O. Box 5888, Arlington, Texas 76005-5888
(800) 272-3921 FAX 817-695-9274

Funded in part by the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services
www.nctcog.org



January 11, 2006

Mr. John Laine
Dallas Ramp Project
P.O. Box 832006
Richardson, TX 75083

Subject: Texas Ramp Project

Dear Mr. Laine:

We have been made aware of your plan to expand the services of the Dallas Ramp Project statewide within Texas. The service that the project offers, free wheelchair ramps and handrails for needy handicapped residents, is one that is currently underserved in our service area and is badly needed. We would be willing to supply referrals within our metropolitan area and to work with you to create this expanded organization locally. We currently have 178 people on our waiting list requesting these items. Some people have been waiting since April 2005 and our list continues to grow. We support the expansion of this program.

Regionally yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Al Notzon, III", is written over a faint, illegible background.

Al Notzon, III
Executive Director



210 E. Ninth St., Fort Worth, TX 76102-6404
Tel 817-258-8000, Fax 817-258-8074
www.aaatc.org

January 11, 2006

Mr. John Laine
Dallas Ramp Project
P.O. Box 832006
Richardson, TX 75083

Subject: Texas Ramp Project

Dear Mr. Laine:

We have been made aware of your plan to expand the services of the Dallas Ramp Project statewide within Texas. The service that the project offers, free wheelchair ramps and handrails for needy handicapped residents, is one that is currently underserved in our service area and is badly needed. We would be willing to supply referrals within our metropolitan area and to work with you to create this expanded organization locally.

The 2005 United Way Metropolitan Tarrant County Community Needs Assessment of 4,710 households indicated that in households with persons over age 60, 11% said that their homes needed modifications they could not afford. Based on the survey, we estimate that there may be as many as 8,500 homes in Tarrant County that need these services.

Sincerely,

Donald R. Smith, Director
Area Agency on Aging of Tarrant County

Information and Referral Line:
Tel 2-1-1 or Tel 817-258-8100 (from cell phone)

Mr. John Laine
Dallas Ramp Project
P.O. Box 832006
Richardson, TX 75083

Subject: Texas Ramp Project

Dear Mr. Laine:

We have been made aware of your plan to expand the services of the Dallas Ramp Project statewide within Texas. The service that the project offers, free wheelchair ramps and handrails for needy handicapped residents, is one that is currently underserved in our service area and is badly needed. We would be willing to supply referrals within our metropolitan area and to work with you to create this expanded organization locally. Our estimate of the need in our service area for this service would be 100 referrals per year.

Sincerely,

Adan Dominguez
Director
Rio Grande Area Agency on Aging

Panhandle Independent Living Center

1118 S. TAYLOR STREET
AMARILLO, TEXAS 79101

(806) 374-1400 Fax (806) 374-4550 TTY (806) 374-2774 advocacy@nts-online.net

January 9, 2006

Mr. John Laine
Dallas Ramp Project
P.O. Box 832006
Richardson, Texas 75083

Dear Mr. Laine:

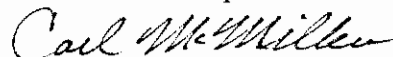
Panhandle Independent Living Center (PILC) of Amarillo, Texas supports your proposal to expand the services of the Dallas Ramp Project statewide within Texas.

The service that the project offers, free wheelchair ramps and handrails for low income persons with disabilities, is one that is currently underserved in our service area. We would be pleased to supply referrals within our metropolitan and rural areas and to assist in creating this project within the 26 county region at no expense to PILC.

We anticipate that approximately 40 referrals per year could be generated by PILC. Additionally, we will provide space for future project meetings conducted by the Dallas Ramp Project. PILC will also publicize the project's local development in monthly newsletters.

We at PILC appreciate the opportunity to assist this organization in the interest of improving services to people with disabilities.

Sincerely,
Panhandle Independent Living Center



Carl McMillen
Executive Director



HARRIS COUNTY

Houston Department of Health and Human Services
Funded by the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services

CITY OF HOUSTON

January 11, 2006

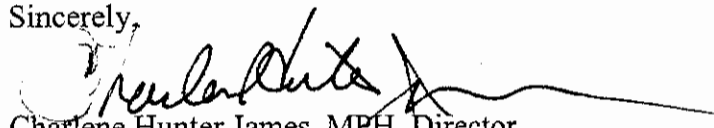
Mr. John Laine
Dallas Ramp Project
P.O. Box 832006
Richardson, TX 75083

Dear Mr. Laine:

The Harris County Area Agency on Aging has been made aware of your plan to expand the services of the Dallas Ramp Project statewide within Texas. The service that the project offers, free wheelchair ramps and handrails for needy handicapped residents will be a welcome program in our service area. There are a number of programs that offer assistance with wheelchair ramps and handrails but the demand is much greater. We would be willing to supply referrals within our metropolitan area and to work with you to create this expanded organization locally.

Should you need additional information or assistance, please feel free to contact me, at (713) 794-9006.

Sincerely,



Charlene Hunter James, MPH, Director
Harris County Area Agency on Aging
Houston Department of Health and Human Services

CHJ/ha