



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

*Department of Juvenile Justice*

Thirty-First Judicial District Court Service Unit

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Stephanie Ney  
National Counseling Group  
9301 Forest Point Circle  
Manassas, VA 20110

Dear Stephanie,

The 31<sup>st</sup> Court Service Unit has collaborated with the HIDTA program, GRIT and the Boy Scouts of America to create a Venturing Crew of at risk youth in the community. Our main focus for the past six months has been on soccer. We have approximately 15 youth who have been actively participating in our soccer program. Some of these youth are on active probation, while others are simply at risk for criminal and gang activity.

We have participated in three regional soccer tournaments in conjunction with the local Gang Response Intervention Teams in Northern Virginia. These tournaments have taken place in Springfield and Arlington, where our youth play other at risk youth from different parts of the metro area. We have obtained funding separately for each tournament, and your agency was gracious enough to sponsor us at our first tournament.

We have a coach who volunteers his time, along with two HIDTA workers and several probation officers who attend weekly practices, tournaments, and other related activities. We have participated in a soccer practice at George Mason University with their collegiate athletes, as well as, attended one of their games this season.

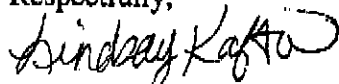
We are hoping to continue and expand our soccer program. In order to accomplish this we are in need of an "official" sponsor for our team. We are in need of soccer equipment to include soccer balls, portable goals, and cleats for a few young men who cannot afford them. In addition, each tournament that we participate in costs approximately \$300 per event. We are requesting your assistance in these matters and hoping that your organization would be willing to "sponsor" our team. We are working on getting jerseys for our youth and will be happy to put your agency logo on our shirts, to let everyone know who is assisting our team and our youth in this positive recreational activity.

In order to facilitate our season, with regards to equipment and entrance fees, we would respectfully request your sponsorship and monetary donation of \$500. In addition, this collaboration can be reviewed and re-evaluated on a quarterly basis, to see if our needs, as well as, your agency's needs are being met with regards to goals and outcomes.

We are also looking to expand our focus beyond soccer. Although our youth love the sport of soccer we are attempting to broaden their horizons and give them more opportunities to try new things. Some new ideas that we have include kickboxing and Learning For Life. We are using team building activities to create leadership in these young people. Life skills and decision making exercises are also where we are focusing.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration in this matter. Please feel free to call me to discuss this further.

Respectfully,



Lindsay Kafton

31<sup>st</sup> Court Service Unit