

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF WASHINGTON COUNTY
451 S. FIRST AVE., SUITE 700
HILLSBORO, OREGON 97123

June 17, 1993

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing on behalf of the Housing Development Corporation of Washington County to support Washington County Community Action Organization's request for support of its Capital Campaign to build a Multi-Service Center in Hillsboro. The Housing Development Corporation or "HDC" is a non-profit community development corporation which has developed 86 housing units to date for farmworker families in Forest Grove and Cornelius. Our experience working with WCCAO has shown us that WCCAO's programs and services are essential to the farmworker community and the broader low-income community in Washington County. We believe the proposed new building will help WCCAO serve more of the county's low-income population and to serve them in a higher quality manner.

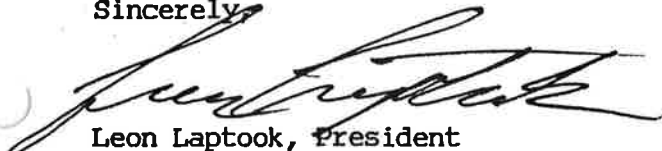
The Housing Development Corporation works very closely with WCCAO on an ongoing basis to develop housing for farmworkers in the county and to provide farmworkers with needed social services. WCCAO refers farmworker clients in need of housing to the HDC and the HDC refers tenants to WCCAO for client services. During cold weather emergencies WCCAO has utilized HDC housing units to house homeless families. The HDC also contracts with WCCAO for staff support to its Board of Directors and three WCCAO staff serve on the HDC Board.

WCCAO provides farmworker households with many needed services. These include emergency food boxes, advocacy against housing discrimination, rent and utility assistance, and home weatherization. WCCAO also serves as a principle Food Stamps site for migrant farmworkers in the county. WCCAO is active in the Hispanic Families Services Coalition and other inter-agency efforts to improve services to farmworkers and promote self-sufficiency.

The proposed new facility will greatly enhance WCCAO's capacity to provide these services. Some of the benefits will include the ability of WCCAO staff to meet with clients privately areas and thus maintain full client confidentiality, the capacity to hold community meetings, and improved ability to carry out other program activities. The new center will be accessible to the farmworker community and convenient to tenants of HDC properties.

If you need more information about the HDC and its relationship to WCCAO, please call me at 648-66466.

Sincerely,



Leon Laptook, President