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Ms. Nune Krayterman
617 Steiner Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45204

April 30, 2012



Dear Ms. Krayterman,

For 115 years, Santa Maria Community Services has been proud to make a difference in the lives of people in Price Hill. In all that we do, we have strived to continually improve our community and our organization. So for nine months, Santa Maria has explored the merits of a potential merger.

We are thrilled to report that, after an in-depth examination, the Boards of Directors of Santa Maria Community Services and Literacy Center West have decided that they will come together as one organization. This means that Literacy Center West will become a program of Santa Maria, operating as one of Santa Maria's centers.

Both Boards are convinced that clients will be served better, community resources will be used more efficiently and staff will have more opportunities to be fulfilled in their work.

This is a merger of two fiscally strong organizations. We are not doing this because of any fiscal emergency at either agency. We are doing this because it will allow us to make an even greater impact on our community for years to come.

We expect this will be a great fit. Literacy Center West's programs will complement those offered by Santa Maria, with almost no duplication. All services the two organizations provide independently will be available after the merger.

Literacy Center West is a 24-year-old nonprofit that works to break the cycle of poverty. It focuses on GED preparation and job-readiness training by tutoring, teaching and counseling people. Based in Price Hill, it has nine employees, about 50 volunteers and 400 donors. Each year, it serves about 350 people from across Greater Cincinnati. More information about LCW is available at www.litcenterwest.org.

Before deciding to go ahead with the merger, we consulted our major funders, including the United Way of Greater Cincinnati. All encouraged us to move forward.

Representatives from both organizations have been meeting to plan the integration. We hope to finalize the merger about July 1.

In the coming weeks, we will have a lot more to tell you about this effort. But we wanted to send you this brief letter as soon as possible so you hear about this great news from us first. Meanwhile, if you have questions, please let us know.

Thank you for your continued commitment to Santa Maria and those we serve.

Sincerely,

H.A. Musser, Jr.
President & CEO

Ted Mitchel
Chair