

From: Schimsa, Rebecca <RebeccaSchimsa@gov.sc.gov>
To: Veldran, Katherine <KatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov>
CC: Mottel, Haley <HaleyMottel@gov.sc.gov>
Date: 8/15/2016 2:02:37 PM
Subject: RE: MARYS House state of emergency- requesting meeting

Last Friday, I followed up with Kristina Smith with additional information, including but not limited to confirming that no emergency funds for nonprofits exist and passing along advice from third parties:

- Ask for donations from local businesses, faith-based groups, and civic organizations.
- Ask the county or nearby municipalities if Act 141 funds are available (fines and fees collected at the local level to fund direct services for crime victims in government and nongovernment entities).
- Ask Chairman Martin for his help in introducing him to local leaders.
- Ask neighboring DV shelter, Safe Harbor, if it had any leads.

She appreciated our following up and will keep us posted. She said that she had also been in contact with incoming Senator Rice.

If you need anything else from me on this, please let me know.

From: Veldran, Katherine
Sent: Tuesday, August 02, 2016 11:49 AM
To: Schimsa, Rebecca
Cc: Mottel, Haley
Subject: FW: MARYS House state of emergency- requesting meeting

Below is an email regarding a DV shelter in Pickens – Mary’s House. They are looking for assistance from Governor Haley.

I spoke briefly with Jackie Bolby (864-933-3714) who manages the shelter and they are requesting a meeting with the governor.

I told her we would follow up after we discussed.

Thanks, KV

From: Kristina Smith [<mailto:director@maryshouse.com>]
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2016 11:41 AM
To: Veldran, Katherine
Subject: MARYS House state of emergency- requesting meeting

Dear Katherine,

I am writing due to what I consider a state of emergency for our organization. I came on board back at the end of 2015. We are a non-profit 501- © (3) organization that provides emergency shelter and services to families who are victims of domestic violence. We are located in Pickens county. When I came on board I noticed that we do not get any state or federal funding. All of our funding comes from the churches in the community, and the founding supporter being the Baptist Association (Piedmont Baptist Association). Upon my hiring, I had the job of staffing just about the whole organization. There has been an up rise of resistance in support due to my hiring of a diverse staff. My staff represents a wide range of denominations and spiritual belief, yet we all work together well and care for the victims that come through our shelter. While the organization embraces diversity, our financial supporters do not and have verbally indicated their stance, as well as stopped their financial support. I had hoped to have enough time to bring in other outside sources for support as well as apply for state and federal grants but is not the case. We are looking to have to lay off staff and find other arrangements for our residents. Basically we may have to close our shelter until financial support can be obtained. Pickens county is such a small county that it’s a challenge to go to any of the locals because they have tight connections to the Piedmont and 12 mile Baptist Associations. Our shelter houses victims who not only are from our county but are from neighboring counties. Currently all other shelters are

also full, it is imperative that we find resources to stay open. We are requesting an appointment with our Governor Nikki Haley to help us address this problem so that we may remain part of the solution to our states problem with domestic violence.

My personal cell phone number is : 864-360-6228

Kristina Smith

Executive Director

MARYS House

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