



April 18, 2017

Dylan Feik, City Manager
City of Calistoga
1232 Washington St.
Calistoga, CA 94515

Dear Dylan,

The UpValley Family Centers respectfully requests that the City of Calistoga consider providing us with a new service agreement for our Immigrant Integration program's expanded work in Calistoga, in the amount of \$30,000. This funding is requested in addition to the existing \$30,000 service agreement for UpValley Family Centers that is dedicated to Community Health and Senior Services.

We have experienced a significant increase in demand for assistance with immigration related needs by Calistoga residents over the past six months due to stated or proposed changes in the implementation of federal immigration laws. Residents in our community have expressed worry, fear and serious concern for themselves and/or their loved ones based on pronouncements at the federal level related to changes immigration policy and enforcement. In just the last 3.5 months, the demand for our services has increased by over 300% compared with the entire 2016 calendar year. From January-December 2016, we served a total of 88 Calistoga residents with citizenship applications, general consultations and educational workshops. From January 2017 to April 15, 2017 we have served a total of 390 Calistoga residents with citizenship applications, U Visas, general consultations, educational workshops, and support completing family preparedness plans. We expect the demand for immigration services to remain high for the foreseeable future and we want to be responsive to the local need.

Funds would be used to increase staff capacity in our Calistoga offices to 2 days/week for immigration services, covering salary and benefits - one day/week for our Immigration Program Coordinator, and one day/week for our Program Director to serve Calistoga residents. Both staff are bilingual, knowledgeable of the community, trained in immigration law and are partially-accredited representatives by the Board of Immigration Appeals/US Department of Justice. We work with various legal services organizations to support complex cases and we assist clients to find low-cost or free attorneys as needed. We enjoy a close working relationship with International Institute of the Bay Area receiving legal supervision, making client referrals, and partnering together on the Citizenship Legal Services/One Napa Valley Initiative.

Much uncertainty and confusion exists; it is essential to provide accurate information to our residents as the situation evolves. We thank the City of Calistoga for your recent proclamation in support of our immigrant community. Please let us know if you need additional information to consider this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jenny Ocon".

Jenny Ocon, MSW
Executive Director