Parent served through Child Care Resource & Referral Agency,
Kalispell, MT

EXHIBIT 23
DATE 1·21·05

Self-worth.....self-esteem.....pride.....positive outlook and determination....

All vocabulary that two years ago did not apply to me.

I am a single mother with two little girls, ages 3 and 6. I moved to Montana three years ago, extremely prepared for a new life and new job.

I am a professional teacher with an advanced degree in education. I have numerous years of experience in my teaching field. Coming to Montana was, in reality, like beginning over again.

The job that I had dreamed of did not happen for me. A full year went by and still no job at all.

Someone suggested that I look into The Nurturing Center. I did.

Two years after my children qualified for the wondrous offerings of The Nurturing Center, I can tell you honestly that I am confident and have more determination in myself than before. I have a fierce determination to make it here in Montana.

I am working. My children are thriving in childcare and we are a complete family unit. I am humbled by the outpouring of love and care from this Kalispell Nurturing Center staff. The opportunities through The Nurturing Center have enabled me to work in my teaching profession, attend training, parenting classes and regain within myself so many traits that I had lost.

There are not enough words to describe how I feel about The Nurturing Center. Without them, I would be lost. I will NOT forget the people who have been there for my children and for me. They have been a strong foundation and support when I did not know where to turn for assistance.

I simply would NOT be here now without their support. I am disappointed as I had hoped to travel to Helena. At the same time I am also committed to my teaching job. I felt compelled to be at work on the same day that I was asked to speak with you.

I request that each of you look at the worthiness and supportivness The Nurturing Center and its vast resources are to so many families. They have been there for me PLEASE allow them to be there for others.

Sincerely submitted on January 21, 2005.

Gretchen Goodson

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