



January 23, 2006

Mayor John Cook
#2 Civic Center Plaza, 10th floor
El Paso, TX 79901

Dear Mayor Cook:

On behalf of the clients, staff and Board of Directors of the Center Against Family Violence I would like to thank you, your wife Tram, and staff for spending time preparing Sunday night dinner for our clients.

Domestic violence is a prevalent issue in our community and it is important for elected officials to place a face on those affected by this criminal act. As you may have noticed, a large majority of those faces are children dealing with the challenges of leaving danger in their home for the safety of a shelter.

It was reported in 2003 by the U.S. Conference of Mayors, that 44% of twenty-five cities surveyed identified domestic violence as a primary cause of homelessness. This is a reality not always recognized.

While at dinner, several clients approached you to share their experiences. By taking the time to listen to their plights, you have helped in providing a basic requirement for all victims of crime—to be heard. You are also the recipient of a difficult gift for them share: their voice.

Again, we appreciate your time and thought in preparing this dinner for our clients. We also invite you learn more about our agency and get involved in continuing our mission of confronting domestic violence in all it forms.

Sincerely,

Carolyn L. Mora, CPA, CFP®
Chairperson, Board of Directors
Center Against Family Violence

cc: Tram Cook

