



JERRY SANDERS
MAYOR

July 7, 2008

Pearl Hartz, Founder
Restorative Justice Mediation Program
3295 Meade Avenue
San Diego, CA 92116

Dear Ms. Hartz:

As Mayor of the City of San Diego, I support the efforts of the Restorative Justice Mediation Program (RJMP) to seek public and private funding, and find alternatives for first time juvenile offenders.

The RJMP vision is to reduce the rising number of offenders appearing in the criminal justice system. Through supervised mediation, RJMP seeks to resolve conflicts between juvenile offenders and their victims. This program gives a judge the opportunity to bring together the youth, the victim, family members, teachers, and other community members to see if restitution, responsibility, and healing can be reached through counseling and a sharing of experiences.

In acknowledgement of its community-based approach to juvenile justice in the past, the RJMP has been recognized by the US Attorney's Office, the County of San Diego Department of Probation, and members of the community. Organizations like RJMP are critical to identifying alternatives for first-time juvenile offenders, and can make the needed difference in our communities.

I hope RJMP is successful in securing public and private funds to support its vital mission.

Sincerely,

JERRY SANDERS
Mayor

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