

Lieutenant Governor

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services Department of Children and Families

Northern Regional Office

280 Merrimack Street, Lawrence, MA 01843 Tel.: (978) 557-2700 Fax: (978) 557-9231 www.mass.gov/dcf MARYLOU SUDDERS Secretary

> LINDA S. SPEARS Commissioner

Mr. Richard Villasana, CEO Forever Homes for Foster Kids 9450 Mira Mesa Blvd, Ste C520 San Diego, CA 92126

Dear Mr. Villasana,

I wanted to take the time to thank your organization for the work done in trying to locate the mother of a young adult our agency was working with. Although we are skilled in family finding work within the US, our agency did not have the capacity to conduct international searches. Luckily your organization was there to help us locate this young adult's mother who was thought to be living in Argentina. The connections you had within his mother's country of origin worked diligently to attempt to locate her given the limited information we were able to forward you

When we embark upon family finding with a young person we let them know that it may not end the way they desire it to, but we will do our best and we will keep them informed along the way of our work. The representative from your agency kept us regularly informed of the work being conducted which in turn allowed us to keep this young adult informed. Sadly in the end we had to inform him that that she could not be located. It is not the result we all wanted, but at least he will know that there were many people out there working on his behalf.

Again I want to thank your organization for doing work we were not able to and allowing us to be able to expand our family find efforts beyond the US borders.

Should the need arise we would not hesitate to contact your agency again.

Sincerely,

Jenelle Walsh, MSW, LCSW

Coordinator

Family Group Conference/Family Find