

PUBLIC COMMENT PACKET

CUP 2019-09

Mirror Ministries – Group Home/Therapeutic Center

Eleven (11) comment letters, all against the proposal, and four (4) e-mailed comments, all in support of the proposal, were received by the time the Staff Report was written.

Since then, an additional fifteen (15) comment letters have been received, and twenty-six (26) e-mailed comments. Fourteen (14) of those comment letters are in support of the proposal, one (1) is against.

All e-mailed comments received have been in support of the proposal.

All comments submitted by 4 pm, February 4, 2020 are included in the Comment Packet.

Agenda Item #2

COMMENT LETTERS AGAINST/EXPRESSING CONCERNS

Rec'd 1-22-2020
CVP 2019-09

Mario Interiano
7311 Columbia River Rd
Pasco, WA 99301

January 22, 2020

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing this letter in order to express my concerns regarding the new facility planned by Mirror Ministries on the property where the Sagemoor Kennels are located. It is my understanding that the County Commissioners are considering whether to allow said facility to be established on that property.

It is my understanding that the facility will shelter girls/ladies that were at one point victims of sex trafficking. That is commendable. However, the location is not suitable for the girls that it is vying to help.

The girls that would be housed at the facility have "special needs". According to the HHS website addressing **"Finding a Path to Recovery: Residential Facilities for Minor Victims of Domestic Sex Trafficking. Residential Facilities"**¹, *These girls were determined to need the intensive treatment often available through hospitalization, staff-secured residential treatment facilities for minors with emotional and/or behavioral disorders, or inpatient substance abuse treatment facilities.* Understandably, these girls have gone through issues that have deeply affected them at a very young age. According to HHS, the nature of the physical and mental injuries makes treatment difficult until they voluntarily decide to remain within the facility and get the treatment they need. *"Whether advocating for a voluntary or mandatory program, everyone recognized that this population is prone to run away or relapse, similar to the phenomenon in substance abuse treatment programs".*

Regarding the location of the facility, the HHS study states that there are programs located within and outside urban areas. *"Providers who advocate for programs sited outside of an urban environment believe that anyone with PTSD is better able to begin recovery away from the daily triggers. For combat veterans, this would be outside of the area of war; for girls who have been the victims of domestic sex trafficking, this would be away from the areas of their exploitation. Furthermore, these providers believe that the distance will provide an added measure of security from traffickers and other predators, and decrease the likelihood that a girl on the run from a program will easily find her way back to the area in which she was trafficked for sex."* The website even includes a quote from a sex traffic survivor: *"It was nice to be away from urban noise the country is really therapeutic. [It was] nice to be home at night and not worry that I will bump into the pimp. You stay in the mindset of hustling in the city".* It is my understanding that the Mirror Ministries subscribe to the "outside Urban areas" model and is the main reason why they are attempting to locate the new facility at the Sagemoor Kennels property.

1. Source: <https://aspe.hhs.gov/report/finding-path-recovery-residential-facilities-minor-victims-domestic-sex-trafficking/residential-facilities>

Finally, HHS notes that these facilities require multiple security measures, such as : *"undisclosed location, security cameras and alarm systems, 24-hour staffing and presence of security guards, unannounced room searches and drug screens, limited phone use, supervised or no access to the Internet, locked doors at all times with staff and residents buzzed in and out of the facility, pre-approved/screened contact lists, etc"*

Based on the above information, conversations that neighbors have had with Mirror Ministries, and information they have posted on their website, I submit to you that the current location is not suitable for this facility.

1. The facility has garnered a lot of attention. It is no longer undisclosed. As such, one of the main requirements for the safety of the girls is no longer present.
2. The facility will be in a "suburban" area. There is an established neighborhood around it. There are also multiple plans for further residential projects. Based on my conversation with our neighbors, owners of multiple agricultural lands have gotten permission from the county to subdivide them into 5 acre residential lots. Many of the existing neighbors are selling their homes and building new homes within the neighborhood.
3. Road 68 and the sprawling residential developments around it are within walking distance. As such, potential areas of exploitation are nearby. Traffickers and other predators will be nearby, and might even live in the area around Road 68.

It is my understanding that the long term plan is to eventually house 32 girls. This would require a large expansion of the facilities and a proportional increase in the number of staff required to attend to those girls. The large staff and visitors would increase the traffic around the neighborhood.

Although I am concerned about the girls safety and recovery, my main concern is for my family. I have a 12 year old girl and a 19 year old boy living at home. It is an established fact that the girls are severely affected. They tend to run away, and their pimps and predators are constantly looking for them. I strongly believe setting the facility within my neighborhood will create a potential safety hazard for my children. The residences located around the proposed facility will attract the troubled girls and the predators. Even if the girls do not escape, they will be incorporating into our childrens' daily lives by riding the bus and going to school with them.

I do not find the potential detrimental effect on the safety our children and our property to be an acceptable risk and burden for us to bear. The facility will also negatively affect house values in the neighborhood. I submit that there are multiple other properties in Benton and Franklin counties that are better suited for this facility.

As such, I respectfully request that a permit be denied.

Thank you,



Mario Interiano

Rec'd 1-23-2020
CUP 2019-0

Henry Field
341 Sunnybank Road
Pasco, WA 99301
Power of Attorney for
Louis and Jenepher Field
113 Spengler Street
Richland, WA 99354-1947

January 22, 2020

Derrick Braaten
Planning and Building Director, Planning and Building Department, Franklin County
502 W. Boeing Street
Pasco, WA 99301
509-545-3521

Dear Derrick,

My parents, Louis and Jenepher Field, built the residence and commercial dog kennel that is the subject of the Conditional Use Permit application (CUP 2019-09), copy attached. I believe that all of the neighbors would agree that while they owned the property and kennel business that it was well kept and an attractive part of the rural neighborhood.

I am greatly concerned that the proposed residential group homes considered in CUP 2019-09 will have a negative effect on the local neighborhood. The conversion of the existing home and the construction of two more group homes will permanently change the makeup of the local neighborhood. There will be no going back as the buildings will not be desirable as conventional family homes and cost prohibitive to make so. Current Franklin County Zoning precludes group homes for good reason and protects the real estate values of surrounding properties in doing so. To allow an institutional facility in the middle of an upscale family-oriented neighborhood would not be respecting the intent of the zoning and be damaging to the property values of the neighborhood.

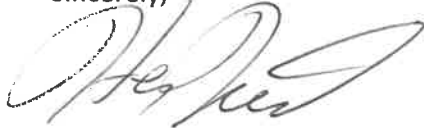
There is also the concern for the safety of the children and the properties in the neighborhood. The abused youth at the group homes are there on their own will and can leave at any time. As a result there is concern for the safety of the local children given the history of the abused youth. This concern will be unfounded until it is too late and some neighborhood child or property is the victim of a crime from an abused youth. At that point, the buildings have been modified and the group home is in place. The only way to protect the neighborhood is to deny CUP 2019-09.

I have yet to speak to a neighbor that supports CUP 2019-09. My parents own all the property to the east of the subject property and are concerned with the effect on their property both in value and the related farming operations. If they had any clue that their property could end up as a group home

for abused youth, they would have put restrictions on their property when they sold it to protect their adjacent properties and those of their neighbors.

Based on the above I request that you deny CUP 2019-09 and respect the intent of the zoning and how it protects property owners in the neighborhood from both a value and safety perspective.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Henry Field', written in a cursive style.

Henry Field
Power of Attorney for
Louis and Jenepher Field
113 Spengler Street
Richland, WA 99354-1947

Cc: file
Louis and Jenepher Field



FRANKLIN COUNTY

PLANNING AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that there has been proposed to the Franklin County Planning Commission an application by **Mirror Ministries**, 2603 Willowbrook Ave, Richland, WA, for a Conditional Use Permit, file # **CUP 2019-09** and **SEPA 2019-15**.

Said application is for the approval of a Conditional Use Permit, requesting the conversion of an existing single-family home and property to be used as residential group housing for abused youth, requiring a protected environment. There are three (3) phases proposed, with each phase adding six (6) additional beds, for a total of 18 beds on the site, plus beds for staff. All three (3) phases are proposed to be completed within 1-3 years, as need and funding provides. The current use of the property is a single-family residence and a commercial dog kennel.

The subject parcel is described as follows:

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

W235.3' OF W2NESW 21-9-29 LY NLY OF US GOVT TRACT XX-3568 EXC W15' FOR RD PURPOSES, located within the SW ¼ of Section 21, Township 9, Range 29 E.W.M.

NON-LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

The property is addressed as 7192 Columbia River Road, Pasco, WA. The parcel is bounded to the west by Columbia River Road, a crop circle to the east, and orchard to the south. The north property is a single-family home. (Parcel Number 126-202-108). The property is zoned Rural Community 5 (RC-5).

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that said application will be considered by the Franklin County Planning Commission. Said consideration will be a public hearing on **February 4, 2020** at **6:30 p.m.** in the **Franklin County Courthouse, Commissioners Meeting Room, 1016 North 4th Avenue, Pasco, WA 99301** and all concerned may appear and present any support for or objections to the application. Written comments are accepted prior to the public hearing and those comments shall be submitted to the Franklin County Planning Department, 502 W. Boeing Street, Pasco, Washington 99301.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that said proposal has been reviewed under the requirements of the State Environmental Policy Act, as amended, along with the Environmental Checklist and other information. A determination has been made as to the environmental impacts of the proposal and a **Determination of Non-Significance (DNS)** has been issued. Accordingly, an Environmental Impact Statement is **not** required. This determination was made on **January 9, 2020** and comments regarding the determination and the environmental impacts of the proposal can be made to the Planning Department by **Thursday, January 23, 2020**.

Information concerning the proposal can be obtained at the Franklin County Planning Department, 502 W. Boeing Street, Pasco, Washington 99301, or by calling (509) 545-3521.

VICINITY MAP:



DATED AT PASCO, WASHINGTON ON THIS 3rd DAY OF JANUARY 2020.

PUBLISH:

Franklin County Graphic: January 9, 2020

Tri-City Herald: January 9, 2020


Derrick Braaten, Planning and Building Director

February 3, 2020

Franklin County Planning Commission
502 W Boeing Street
Pasco, WA 993010



RE: Mirror Ministries Conditional Use Permit; File #CUP 2019-09

Dear Franklin County Planning Commission,

In regards to the application by Mirror Ministries for a Conditional Use Permit file #CUP 2019-09, I respectfully submit my concerns as a neighboring citizen. My home is located at 129 Ridgeview Drive, not more than 150 yards away from the subject property 7192 Columbia River Road, Pasco, WA. Mirror Ministries is requesting by permit the conversion of an existing single-family home (Zone RC-5) to be used as a group care facility for up to 18 sex trafficked youth and 26 staff members.

In making this decision, the Planning Commission should first refer to Franklin County Code definitions for "Group Care Facility" (17.06.430) and "Group Home" (17.06.440). Throughout the *CUP 2019-09 Staff Report*, the terms are used interchangeably. However, the code definitions are clear. A "Group Home" means more than six unrelated persons over the age of sixteen (16) living in a single housekeeping unit. A "Group Care Facility" means any number of unrelated persons living together as a single housekeeping unit sponsored by a public or private service entity whether supervisions of the residents is provided on a full or part-time bases. Mirror Ministries reportedly plans to provide restorative therapy to youths between the ages of 12-17. Therefore, by definition, Mirror Ministries is providing a "Group Care Facility," which is not listed as a conditional use by permit for RC-5 zoning in section 17.20.040 of the Franklin County Code. On this basis alone, a permit should be denied.

The *Staff Report* also refers to Mirror Ministries proposal as a "residential group housing." Group Care Facilities and Group Homes alike are not residential occupancy classifications: they are Institutional Groups. Allow me to make this clarification again, they are Institutional Groups. It is important to recognize this as an institutional group while considering the location of this site. The *Staff Report*, Suggested Findings of Fact No. 3 states the proposal WILL BE "operated to be in harmony with the existing or intended character of the general vicinity." How can an institutional facility with 44 people (18 youth and 26 staff) operate in harmony with the existing or intended character of the general vicinity; when the general vicinity are single-family homes? An institution with 44 people is NOT the character of this neighborhood, and hardly reflects the rural residential environment intended by the RC-5 zoning.

The *Staff Report*, Suggested Findings of Fact No. 1 states the proposed use "IS in accordance with the goals and policies of County Development Regulations."

Again, I disagree. Section 17.02.020 of the Franklin County Code states the purpose and goals of planning our community. Of these, there are two of particular importance:

- Increase the security of home life and preserve and create a more favorable environment for citizens and visitors of Franklin County
- Stabilize and improve property values

Mirror Ministries wants to open the first home of its kind in Washington state to house sexually exploited teen girls. I can only image the horrific circumstances these children have encountered before arriving at this facility. Circumstances which would leave any human mentally unstable, emotionally drained, impulsive, and angry. Given this location, if one of the youths decides to run away from the facility and needs money, a car or worse yet a firearm, my neighborhood is the closets place to find all three.

In the future, my husband and I hope to have children and raise a family. We were originally attracted to this neighborhood for its proximity to the river and its close-knit feel. Now I find myself questioning if I will ever be able to allow my young teenage children to walk to the beach unsupervised. There will always be a fear of drug pushers, disgruntled parents and sex traffickers around this facility. Allowing Mirror Ministries to proceed does not create a favorable environment for one family in this area.

In addition to the security of my home and my family, I am concerned with the security of the abused youth. Emergency response time to this area is long at best. Mirror Ministries claims to provide safe housing for these youths while in transition. Is this housing safe from traffickers in the Tri-Cities area, now that this story is front-page news? If one of these sex-traffickers comes to take back his "property", who will be there to stop him. This location is not rural enough to be completely isolated, but suburban enough for these criminals to easily access these girls and disappear on the highway. This site provides an easy and unopposed opportunity for these criminals.

The *Staff Report*, Suggested Findings of Fact No. 6, states the proposal "WILL NOT endanger the public health, safety, or general welfare." Based on the above, I respectfully disagree. Allowing Mirror Ministries to proceed with a group care facility does not increase the security of home life or preserve and create a more favorable environment for the existing surrounding community.

My husband and I built our home during the year of 2019. We invested all of our time, money, and physical labor into the construction of our home with a deep belief that our investment would be returned to us exponentially because of the neighborhood that surrounds us. Now that investment is in jeopardy. I own one of the more conservative homes in this area. I joyfully invite anyone of the people on the Planning Commission to drive down our street. These homes represent years of hard work for each single-family who resides in them. Allowing Mirror Ministries to operate a group care facility in this neighborhood will undoubtedly negatively affect the property values.

The Staff Report, Suggested Findings of Fact No. 4, states the proposed "WILL NOT" discourage the development of permitted uses on property in the general vicinity or impair the value thereof." This is simply not true. Even the *potential* of Mirror Ministries being issued a conditional use permit has already reportedly affected the sale of a home in this neighborhood. My husband and I certainly would have reconsidered the purchase of our property if we thought there was the potential for an institutional facility of this type next door. Future property owners will have the same concerns when considering moving to this area of Franklin County. Approving the conditional use permit for Mirror Ministries will not stabilize and improve property values of the surrounding neighborhood.

As homeowners and taxpayers of Franklin County, we respectfully request the Planning Commission deny CUP 2019-09, by heeding to the intent of its own County's zoning laws. This includes protecting homeowners from guaranteed property devaluation and security risks.

Sincerely,


Lisa Siefken


Jeremy Siefken

Rec'd 01/23/2020
CUP 2019-09

Franklin County
Planning and Building Department

Re: Mirror Ministries CUP 2019-09 & SEPA 2019-15

This letter is written in response to the Notice of Public Hearing letter that was mailed to potentially impacted parcels surrounding Parcel 126-202-108.

We have been residents of the Ridgeview Drive neighborhood since 2004 and have serious concerns with this proposed plan usage of the property at 7192 Columbia River Road.

While we won't assume to be speaking for our entire neighborhood or those homes surrounding our neighborhood, we know that most if not all have the same concerns we have on what is proposed to be introduced into the immediate community.

Establishment and construction of a facility to assist with persons who have addiction problems, been subjected to sexual exploitation, or any other matter is respected at any level. However, the impact to the surrounding neighborhoods is all but certain to be negative. People have a material investment in their homesteads in our neighborhood and the establishment of a facility such as this will absolutely cause a material downward trend on property values.

In addition to the value issue are the concerns of containment and determent of unwelcome traffic to the property. If the facility is fenced and guarded it will send a message to anyone looking to buy in the area that it is questionably an unsafe place. If it is not fenced it will absolutely raise a question as to the safety of the community with people free to come and go. If the residents are being sought out by people who are their suppliers or control them in a trafficking situation it presents a grave concern of safety to the community, especially those households with children.

Putting aside the impact to the community, the question needs to be asked as to why Mirror Ministries is focused on this location. If the intention is purely to provide a safe and secluded haven for women to recover, placing them on what is becoming a main artery linked only a few miles from Pasco would seem to greatly diminish that. In addition, why would Mirror Ministries choose to purchase a parcel that is approximately \$225,000 per acre when they could find a far larger parcel in a more secluded place in rural Franklin County that still gives access to the Tri-Cities for anything the women need AND at a cost more in line with \$20,000 per acre.

If the funding is through contributions, the contributors should be asking some serious questions as to why that level of money is being spent when a 20 acre block could be acquired in the range of \$400,000 - \$450,000 in a place where there are no housing developments or objections from the community.

In conclusion we will simply point out that Franklin County is a large mass of land with just short of 810,000 acres. It would seem more than logical that a facility of this nature could find a remote location that does not have established neighborhoods next door that will absolutely incur a negative impact as a result (whether populated with \$100,000 or \$1,000,000 homes). There are plenty of other options for Mirror Ministries to choose from to build its facility in Franklin County and help the people they are attempting to help.

We are hopeful you will take these issues under serious consideration and encourage Mirror Ministries to search for other locations as opposed to negatively impacting a community that has established itself over the course of decades and doesn't need adversity introduced into the core of its fabric.

Courtney and Beverly Calaway
210 Ridgeview Drive



FRANKLIN COUNTY

PLANNING AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT

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Rec'd 01/22/2020

January 22, 2020

Paula Curtright
181 Ridgeview Dr.
Pasco, WA 99301

Derrick Braaten, Director
Franklin County Planning and Building
502 W. Boeing Street
Pasco, WA 99301

Subject: File CUP 2019-09 Mirror Ministries

Dear Mr. Braaten

I am writing this letter in opposition to Mirror Ministries, a non-profit organization, planned purchase as outlined in CUP 2019-09. Per Growth Management Act (RCW 36.70A), Mirror Ministries does not comply with the purpose and directive of the law. Briefly summarized by Franklin County Planning and Building:


"...uncoordinated and unplanned growth, together with a lack of common goals expressing the public's interest in the conversion and the wise use of lands, pose[d] a threat to the environment, sustainable economic development, and the health, safety and high quality of life enjoyed by residents of the State of Washington."

Safety. In that Mirror Ministries (Applicant) provides a welcome service to the Tri-cities community, the applicant fails to meet an acceptable level of safety to our community in which proposed site is located. Clients of applicant are survivors of the sex trafficking criminal syndicate. As such, neighbors (within a near proximity of Applicant site) would be at risk if and when any form of criminal activity, be it retaliation upon or unsafe acts by clients. It is impossible for Applicant to guarantee that such risks would be avoided. Tricia MacFarlan, representative of Applicant, has admitted such guarantee could not be made. Therefore, Applicant admittedly fails to meet the requirements of (RCW 36.70A), the purpose of Franklin County Planning and Building, and safe living environment currently enjoyed by neighbors. Applicant also fails to align the site proposal with one of its own tenants: "Safety is one of our key values - for our clients, staff, and neighbors"... a safety plan that offers no guarantee of safety.

Security. Ms. MacFarlan has stated there would be no security measures in the proposed location with which to isolate clients and possible restorative practices. Upon admission to the program, residents are reminded they can leave at any time, and are offered a "Go Pack" should they decide to leave.

Therefore, I submit that Mirror Ministries be denied their request.

Regards


Paula Curtright

Rec'd 01/22/2020

January 22, 2020

Larry Curtright
181 Ridgeview Dr.
Pasco, WA 99301

Derrick Braaten, Director
Franklin County Planning and Building
502 W. Boeing Street
Pasco, WA 99301

Subject: File CUP 2019-09 Mirror Ministries

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Security. Per our conversation, Ms. MacFarlan stated there would be no security measures in the proposed location with which to isolate clients and possible restorative practices. Upon admission to the program, residents are reminded they can leave at any time, and are offered a "Go Pack" should they decide to leave.

Therefore, I submit that Mirror Ministries be denied their request.

Regards

Larry Curtright

Rec'd 1-23-2020
CUP 2019-01

January 22, 2020

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing in response to the notice of public hearing for a conditional use permit application by Mirror Ministries.

I have several concerns regarding the housing of sex trafficking victims in our rural community. In contacting Mirror Ministries two different representatives have given conflicting responses to multiple questions regarding the victims schooling options (in-house vs public), the victims ability to come and go from the facility, and the ability of the victims to have visitors. One of the representatives even mentioned that they really hoped word didn't get out about the location because of concerns about the victim's "pimps" coming to look for them. They also mentioned that most of the victims have completed a drug rehab program before being allowed to enter the facility. According to several studies drug rehab success rates are extremely low, 5-10%, especially when the addiction is coupled with issues like sexual abuse. So, what happens when these victims relapse? How will they get the money to buy the drugs if they relapse? Who will they get the drugs from if they relapse? I fear the answers to these questions will quite possibly put in jeopardy the safety of this rural community.

In reading through Mirror Ministries own requirements for such a facility (see attachment), two things stick out to me. Their requirement of the facility being "at least a mile from the next road/business" is not met at this location, the house on the property is less than 100 ft from the nearest road. Their requirement of "private, distant neighbors" is not met by this property, there are at least 5 neighbors within 150 yards and at least 40+ neighbors within a one-mile radius.

I have to assume that Mirror Ministries own requirements are put in place to ensure the best possible success of their facility. That being said, if the county allows this conditional use permit and they purchase the property in question, one that self admittedly is not right for their facility, what kind of issues are the people of this rural community in store for?

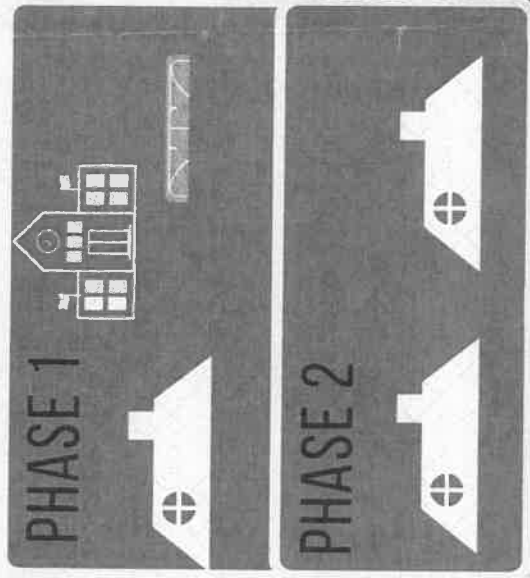
The county's own zoning as a rural COMMUNITY speaks to the fact that this facility is not appropriate for the area. As this area grows this area will get less and less "discreet and private", another requirement on Mirror Ministries own list.

In conclusion, this facility would not be a positive addition to the safety of the people and property of this rural community. I am 100% against the conditional use permit applied for by Mirror Ministries and hope that the commissioners will take these extremely important issues into careful consideration before making their decision.

Sincerely,



Paul Pardini
1400 Helm Drive



PHASE 1: OUR 3-YEAR PLAN

- Purchase Property
- Renovate or Build:
 - Home for 6 Girls
 - Counseling and School Building
 - Gym/Multi-Purpose Building
- Hire Qualified, Caring Staff
- Implement our 12-18 Month Customizable Therapeutic Program

PHASE 2: OUR 10-YEAR PLAN

- Build Two More Homes for 6 Girls Each on the Same Property

PROPERTY & BUILDING NEEDS

With much prayer and research into most promising practices, we compiled a list of needs for the location of Esther's Place:

- Rural acreage (County)
 - Welcoming Home – discreet & private
 - At least a mile to the next road/business (Long driveway)
 - Private, distant neighbors
 - Not more than 30 minutes from Tri-Cities
 - Playground area with swings (Movement is essential in healing)
 - Room for horses
- Subtle security – makes residents feel safe not imprisoned
- Large home 7-8 bedrooms
 - 3+ bathrooms
 - Big Kitchen
 - Dining Room
 - Large Living room & Family Room
- Multiple Buildings:
 - School building
 - Counseling area & Office space
 - Gymnasium, basketball court, pool

Rec'd 01/23/2003
CUP 2019-09

To whom it may concern,

I would like to address the concern of having Mirror Ministries buy the property above my home, 7196 Columbia River Road in Pasco, Washington, to turn it into a home for Sex Trafficked teens. I feel that it is an inappropriate location so close to where I am raising my children. Not only is it going to bring troubled teens to our community, but it is going to bring the traffic and people that come with that situation. I am told that the girls are free to come and go and I have a teenage daughter and a young son that will be put into the danger of what their freedom entails. I am also aware that as "pimps" don't come looking for these young teens, it is still a possibility, which is a very big safety concern. I know that with this there are drugs and addicts and many problems I can't begin to state. This company will in no way have the security to make us feel safe or give us the piece of mind we currently have in knowing our children are safe. I feel for these girls and their families, I just don't think bringing them to our community with so many families and young children is a safe alternative. It is a major disruption to our tight knit community and the values that we have tried to instill. I feel there are many other options for a home of this caliber that is not so close to a family community. Please take my concerns to heart, and know that we aren't trying to be cold to this sensitive situation, however our children's safety is first and foremost. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jeremy and Amber Bonderman
10 Ridgeview Drive, Pasco WA
509-551-9138
509-551-8138

REC'D 1-23-2020
CUP 2019-09

January 22, 2020

Franklin County Planning Department

I am writing this letter in opposition to the conditional use permit being approved for Mirror Ministries.

I am opposed to Mirror Ministries because of the increased risks that the neighborhood as a whole may experience. Mirror Ministries is involved with individuals that have been exposed to sex-trafficking. Many of these have been drug dependant, involved in theft and burglaries. I also believe that the predators that have been in contact with these individuals present a problem. I do not believe that approving this permit is worth the risks that the community as a whole could be exposed to. It is not worth jeopardizing the safety and security of my family.

We have been getting conflicting reports from representatives of Mirror Ministries. We were told that there would only be a maximum of 18 individuals only to find out from another that there possibly could be 32. We were told that they would be home schooled, only to find out that they would be riding the buses and attending the public schools. We were told that they wouldn't be allowed visitors not even their parents and then found out they would be allowed to come and go freely. What is the true story?

In conclusion I am totally opposed to the approval of the conditional use permit and the hazards that it poses to myself, my family and the community as a whole.

Manuel Pardini

Manuel Pardini
1580 Helm Dr.

Rec'd 1-23-2020
OUT 2019-01

January 20, 2020

Franklin County Planning Department

This letter is in objection to allowing the Mirror Ministries moving into our farming community.

The location does not meet Mirror Ministries "property and building needs" as listed in their three year plan.

Discreet, private and with distant neighbors:

There are 65+ homes within 1¼ miles of the proposed facility.

At least a mile to next neighbor, road or business:

It is 115 feet from the proposed facility to Columbia River Road and 240 feet to the closest neighbor, one of 30 homes in the housing development directly across the road.

To the north the proposed facility is 435 feet from the properties original farmhouse, where the 90 year old owner has lived for 50 years.

I'm sure the county is well aware that new housing developments are quickly moving this way. The crop circle to the east has already been divided into 5 acre lots.

What if this project doesn't work out? Then we have an institutional facility in our neighborhood that will be used for what? It will never go back to a private home.

It's upsetting that we have been put in this position. We are certainly all for facilities like this, but this is not the remote property or inexpensive property Mirror Ministries is looking for.

Gloria Pardini

Gloria Pardini
1580 Helm

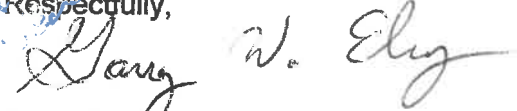
Rec'd 1-23-20
CVP 2019-
09

January 23, 2020

Franklin County Planning

I am writing this letter in concern with the proposed permit for the development of Mirror Ministries' residential group housing. The letter states that the housing requires a protected environment. It is our belief that this property cannot provide secure housing for the residents within and around. There are 60+ families, with young children, living within a 1 mile radius of this property. Although the property is a convenient purchase because of the infrastructure already in place, that does not mean that it meets the necessary requirements for a program of this sort. This is not a remote location and has street access of less than 200' from 2 different sides. The facility would be an easy target for people to get into that should not be there. Franklin County citizens rely on their elected county commissioners to take into consideration the safety and security of all county residents.

Respectfully,



Gary Eby



Marilyn Eby

6861 Columbia River Road
Pasco, WA

Rec'd 1-22-2020 ^{jm}
CUP 2019-09

Franklin County Planning Department

502 W. Boeing Street

Pasco, WA 99301

Re: Conditional Use Permit, file CUP 2019-09 and SEPA 2019-15

To: Franklin County

I have some concerns with converting the single family residence and commercial dog kennel (7192 Columbia River Road, Pasco, WA 99301) into a residential group housing for abused youth requiring a protected environment. I reside at 163 Ridgeview Dr., Pasco, WA 99301 and the following items concern me and my family:

1. What age are these youths?
2. How much more traffic will this generate?
3. Will these youths be allowed to wander around the neighborhood? There are several swimming pools in the neighborhood and we are close to the river.
4. What about the noise of the kids playing outside?
5. Will this bring individuals trying to find their kids out to the area?
6. How long do the youths stay? Are they coming and going frequently?

This neighborhood is quiet and that is why we moved out here. Because of this new residence, that may all change and that is a concern for us. Thank you for considering our concerns.

Doug and Janet Worthington

163 Ridgeview Drive

Pasco, WA 99301

Agenda Item #2

COMMENT LETTERS FOR/IN SUPPORT

Franklin County Commissioners
1016 N. 4th Ave
Pasco, WA 99301

Feb. 3, 2020

Maegan Murray
2895 Pauling Ave #254
Richland, WA 99354

Dear Franklin County Commissioners,

I write to you in support of the proposed conditional use permit for a restoration home at the proposed residence in Pasco, Wash., which would serve minor girls who are survivors of sex trafficking.

Mirror Ministries is a wonderful organization. Founded by a handful of individuals with a dream to help reduce the amount of those who suffer the horrific realities of sex trafficking, the ministry has grown exponentially as a result of the hard, but incredibly rewarding work completed by its staff and volunteers.

These individuals have a heart for helping a population of individuals that most often experience a turned blind eye. It is the result of their compassion and care that they are able to help an average of 80 survivors in a given month, truly walking alongside these individuals for wholistic restorative support that has led to dozens get out of "the life" and into a life of hope, healing and restoration.

Mirror Ministries staff serve as advocates and the voice for the broken at court hearings, provide counseling, Bible studies, cooking classes, resume and career prep and art therapy. They are a shoulder to lean on and a heart to cry with. They work with local police to be a direct connection to get those off the street and into a safe residence. They provide outreach, trainings and more to educate those about how we, as a Tri-Cities regional community, can help to reduce the amount of young men and women who are trafficked.

It is because of this deep care and a true commitment to fighting this horrific crime locally in the Tri-Cities that I, myself, decided to serve as part of Mirror Ministries. This year marks the start of my fourth year on the board with Mirror Ministries. I first heard about Mirror Ministries through a coworker, who had heard that I was a believer in Christ and wanted to know if I would be interested in serving. Little did he know that I had prayed three days before, after returning from a mission trip out of the country, about serving locally as part of a ministry that is making a much-needed and immense difference locally in the Tri-Cities. To say that this was an answer to prayer would be an understatement.

In these last three years, I have seen our advocates and executive director help countless survivors find a safe life away from their trafficker, turn away from drugs and alcohol, find permanent employment, live on their own for the first time in their own residence, complete high school and begin a new life. We have seen countless individuals come to know Christ, establishing the most profound purpose in their life, which has also restored in themselves their own self-worth and value as a human being. That being said, coming to know Christ to find help through Mirror Ministries is not a requirement, nor is it forced upon them. It is simply the philosophy by which our staff and volunteers have devoted our own lives, and is the reason for why we aspire to help those who would otherwise possibly never see the help that they require.

Mirror Ministries is the only organization in the Tri-Cities that is specifically dedicated to helping survivors of sex trafficking, and also the only organization that walks with survivors throughout their whole restorative process. There are also currently no homes for minor girls in the state of Washington, which is an immense issue, as many individuals are first trafficked as minors – the average age being 12 years old.

This restoration home would provide survivors with a dedicated space to recover from their horrific trauma and learn to live a new life free of their former bondage and all of the weight that comes with it. It is a place for healing and camaraderie with fellow survivors in a safe space that is largely away from the general public. This property and its facilities would serve as an ideal place for all of this to occur. Of all of the properties we have reviewed so far, it is the best fit in geography and facility needs for what will be required for a restoration home for minor girls.

Mirror Ministries also takes the protection of its clients and precautions for protecting those who are associated with the ministry and its neighbors very seriously. Should a conditional use permit be approved, safety and security would remain a top focus for both our clients and our neighbors.

We thank you for the opportunity to present our proposal and also deeply appreciate your time. We hope you will heartfully consider the need for this restoration home and the ideal fit that this property and its facilities present for a restoration home for these girls who have known nothing but trauma for most of their lives.

Sincerely,

Maegan Murray
Mirror Ministries board member and Tri-Cities resident
619-403-3617
Maeganmurray741@gmail.com

2-04-2020

To the Franklin County Commissioners and planning commission



Valerie Carlson: I have ownership in farm units starting about 2 miles and beyond up the road from what is currently known as Sagemoor Kennels. I am here to express my strong support for granting the conditional use permit allowing Mirror Ministries to establish a facility for sexually exploited teen girls and others if they so choose on this property.

This is not something new. Apparently the county has granted something like this before, because for many years just a few more miles up the road and over the hill was Cypress Gardens Academy. It was as I understand a working farm for Seventh Day Adventist youth. These were kids that as I understand whose parents wanted their children to experience structured farm and academic life, learning farm work and chores and maybe be a little isolated from bad influences. It was neat. The housing buildings look very similar to the split entry house my parents had built for our large family, a very common style of the 60's and 70's. There were also commercial green houses built on the farm and seasonally the kids would sell plants. At Christmas they sold the most gorgeous poinsettias.

And also, a little farther away but this side of Radar Hill is Baillie's Boys Ranch, with solid attractive brick buildings and manicured grounds.

If for no other reason.... to deny this conditional use permit would be unfair. And may even be seen as discriminatory. We don't need the county to get into some legal quagmire spending property taxpayer money on legal and attorney fees when totally unnecessary. Think how many county road improvements could have been done with the 3 million dollars that disappeared a few years ago.

I have been involved in researching and writing about one of America's great ideas. Along with our national parks and highway system, the American citizens paid for Grand Coulee Dam and the Columbia Basin Reclamation Project. As you know, this grand vision brought irrigation to the fertile but before dry land of this Columbia Basin region. And as you know, this successful endeavor brought great economic benefit to our state, nation and local wealth.

Time and time again are told stories of how the young farm families who were awarded the opportunity to start farming here shared and helped each other. This was all new. Trial and error. What to plant, how to grow things. They shared learning experiences, equipment even helping each other get crops harvested. Even businesses in town extended credit and loans. It was to the benefit of everyone that this project and those involved succeed. And due to hard work and perseverance, it did!

I know for a fact that this legacy and culture of generosity, and caring has continued in the descendants of many of those brave selfless pioneers.

Concern about safety and crime: Then let me be the first to inform those concerned that crime happens everywhere. We have had our shop broke into, fuel stolen, 4-wheelers and pickups stolen, even fruit stolen. These folks have chosen to live in the vicinity of orchards and vineyards. These are labor intensive crops. A lot of people come around. At peak harvest we have had over 300 employees a day. Multiple that by the other dozen or so other orchards and vineyards in the area. And among people, things are bound to happen but with our excellent sheriff department always quick to respond to a call, these incidents get handled.

Property values: There are things to worry about but property values being negatively impacted is not one of them. An article in Sunday's Tr-City Herald about viruses said that just since last October, 10,000 Americans have died of the flu. Anyone can google about the 1918 Spanish flu epidemic in this country and around the world. My mother was a tiny baby when she barely survived this flu. The neighbor's baby boy did not.

Location: If Mirror Ministries deems that this location and property is exactly what they have dreamed about for the ministry, who is anyone to say different. It is certainly handy for those willing to donate or volunteer. I'm up and down that road all the time. If something is needed from town, I'd be glad to pick it up and deliver. Put me done for a bin load of apples and I'll try my best to get some cherries there too. I can think of four churches in the region. A common value of people of faith is humility and serving others. Let us not shun these poor wounded souls. Let us welcome them to our community and hearts. For they have been so horribly hurt.

The publicity about this got me fired up enough to get off my duff, click off Judge Judy and make my way to Lampson's parking lot last Friday for the Human trafficking awareness event. Before a lovely evening stroll across the blue lit cable bridge, we were informed that human trafficking is the second fastest if not the fastest growing of all crimes, largely due to the unintended consequences of the internet. It was heartbreaking to hear that so many young people are so vulnerable because they are so seeking someone to care about them. There is going to be a lot of fallout to come.

When I was young President Kennedy said to us "Ask not what your country can do for you but ask what you can do for your country." Helping these girls heal is helping all of us. What we don't need more of are broken people on the streets attempting to overcome their pain with illicit drugs or alcohol abuse.

I was puzzled by a letter to the editor on Sunday from a similar mission in Kennewick that seemed to say that they have this problem handled. There is often more than one way to go about solving problems. This doesn't need to be a cross river rivalry. That's old school for competing sports teams. We need all hands on deck to deal with this.

Now I am not at all familiar with Mirror Ministries but I am familiar with the Broetje name. From what I have read and heard, who does not respect and admire the Broetje family for not only their success as fruit producers, packers and marketers but for their generosity to not only their employees but to the people in Prescott, east Pasco and other places in the world.?

A few years ago there use to be a saying while not entirely fair, did make a point. "If you are not part of the solution then you are part of the problem".

Franklin county let's be part of the solution. Let's do what is right and grant this conditional permit.

It is the kindness, compassion, generosity that has and will continue to MAKE AMERICA GREAT!!!!

Valerie Carlson
business: 1770 CYPRESS DR
PASCO, WA 99301

home: 2800 Rd 56
PASCO, WA 99301

cell: 509. 302. 5035

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About 93,600,000 results (0.54 seconds)

Did you mean: lyrics put a little love in *your* heart

Put A Little Love In Your Heart

Jackie DeShannon

Think of your fellow man
Lend him a helping hand
Put a little love in your heart

You see it's getting late
Oh, please don't hesitate
Put a little love in your heart

And the world will be a better place
And the world will be a better place
For you and me
You just wait and see

Another day goes by
Still the children cry
Put a little love in your heart

If you want the world to know
We won't let hatred grow
Put a little love in your heart

And the world (And the world) will be a better place
All the world (And the world) will be a better place
For you (For you) and me (And me)
You just wait (Just wait) and see, wait and see

Take a good look around
And if you're looking down
Put a little love in your heart

I hope when you decide
Kindness will be your guide
Put a little...

Source: Musixmatch

Feedback

Videos

1/27/20

Dear members of the planning commission -
Please, please, please pay close attention to the lyrics of this popular 1969 song. I think it makes one of the best arguments towards making the world a better place for all. Please vote in favor of the home for sex-trafficking victims.
Those who are victims of abuse, homeless or having ~~still~~ need a safe place to live and the loving care of their fellow man.

<https://www.google.com/search?q=lyrics+put+a+little+love+in+you+hearts&rlz=C309141E-5240-67-15&client=firefox-a> 1/27/20, 11:05 AM
Page 1 of 3

Thank you for your attention to this matter
Diana Babcock

January 28, 2020

Franklin County Planning Commission
c/o Derrick Braaten, Director of Planning and Building
502 W. Boeing Street; Pasco, WA 99301



Reference Number: Mirror Ministries CUP 2019-09

Dear Franklin County Planning Commissioners,

I am writing in support of this Conditional Use Permit request filed by Mirror Ministries to operate a Group Residential Home in Franklin County to operate a Restoration Home for abused female youth.

I have been a volunteer with Mirror Ministries for two years. I have seen and worked with the Director and Staff over these years. I have watched how they have cared for and supported so many clients; and, I have seen first hand the positive difference Mirror Ministries is making in the lives of their clients.

The Staff is very professional; yet very caring and supportive and I can see the trust the Staff is able to build between themselves and the clients. They provide a very safe place.

The clients receive individual professional therapy. They provide music and art and cooking classes.

The Staff will offer them food and bottled water/juice when they come into the Center. There is a very sincere welcome to all that come to the Center. If they are in need of clothes and shoes, they have a wonderful closet filled with items the clients can select from. All donations from our very own Community.

The Staff 'loves on' the clients with birthday parties and holiday celebrations to make them feel special. Which they are! Some have never really had their very own birthday party.

No doubt you are aware of the current Mirror Ministries Outreach Center located in Kennewick. From the outside; one wouldn't even know that it wasn't a residential home. It is very well kept up, very quiet and peaceful.

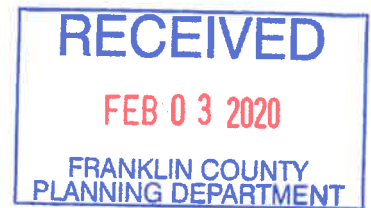
Everyone I know, loves Mirror Ministries. Our Community Churches are very supportive, too. We are proud to support Mirror Ministries; and, we are grateful they are here in our Community.

I appreciate you, the Franklin County Planning and Building Department, for taking the time to consider this Conditional Use Permit. And, that you will read each letter you receive. I appreciate your consideration to help our very own Community to support the youth victims and survivors of sex trafficking right here in our very own Community. To help them heal and be restored.

With sincere appreciation for your time and consideration,
Jean Clary; 1350 Tuscany Pl; Richland, WA 99352

01/30/2020

Franklin County Planning Commission
c/o Derrick Braaten, Director of Planning and Building
502 W. Boeing St
Pasco, WA 99301



Mr. Braaten

I am writing this letter to support the conditional use permit for the Mirror Ministries Group Residential Home in Franklin County.

For several years now, Mirror Ministries has provided a safe and nurturing environment for victims of sex trafficking in and around the greater Tri- Cities area. Sadly and tragically human trafficking is a growing problem in our area and the current location of their facility is no longer adequate.

I have been very impressed with the directors and staff at Mirror Ministries. Their sincerity, compassion, and dedication is real. Over the years they have developed a comprehensive outreach program in the community (government, school districts, hospitals, and community organizations) to create partnerships aimed at preventing trafficking and identifying victims of trafficking.

I want to be clear that the girls that will reside in this group home are victims and not criminals. I have heard of and seen some of the long range plans for this home. Not only do I believe that the location being discussed will be a wonderful and safe, it will also be designed to fit in well with the surrounding area.

Along with myself and many local residents of the area your recommendation and issuance of the conditional use permit would be very welcomed and much needed.

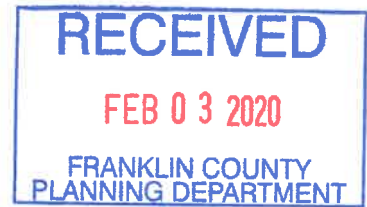
Thank you once again for your concern and consideration,

Sincerely, 

Howard Broadbent
4824 Blue Heron Blvd.
West Richland, WA 99353

Reference Number:

Mirror Ministries CUP 2019-09



Krystal Peterson
1150 Bridle Drive
Richland, WA 99352
January 31, 2020

Mr. Derrick Braaten
Director of Planning and Building
Franklin County Planning Department
502 W Boeing Street
Pasco, WA 99301

Dear Mr. Derrick Braaten:

I am writing for your support in the Conditional Use Permit request filed by Mirror Ministries to operate a Group Residential Home in Franklin County. Mirror Ministries has entered into a purchase agreement for property to operate a Restoration Home for abused female youth.

I have volunteered with Mirror and have worked directly with some of the women. Safety is one of our key values for not only our clients but volunteers and neighbors. This is a great opportunity, in your position, to make a lifetime impact for these victims. To allow Mirror to come along side this neighborhood to show respect and love to this community. I urge you to follow your gut to make an impacting change for these women that have been devalued and abused. Give them a second chance to heal through this home environment and be a potential, positive contributor to our future community.

I appreciate Franklin County Planning and Building Department in taking time to consider our Conditional Use Permit and to read my letter. And your support of youth survivors of sex trafficking. May God bless you deeply.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krystal Peterson". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Krystal Peterson
Krystal.fitness@gmail.com
509-713-6706

January 29, 2020

Franklin County Planning Commission
c/o Derrick Braaten, Director of Planning and Building
Franklin County Planning Department
502 W Boeing Street
Pasco WA 99301



RE: **Mirror Ministries CUP 2019-09**

Dear Mr. Braaten:

I am writing in support of the Conditional Use Permit request filed by Mirror Ministries to operate a Group Residential Home in Franklin County. Mirror Ministries has entered into a purchase agreement for property to operate a Restoration Home for abused female youth.

Our congregation, consisting of 700+ community members, has supported Mirror Ministries, both financially and through volunteer hours, since 2017. During this time, we have come to know members of their staff and Board of Directors and have heard testimonies from some of their clients.

The work Mirror Ministries is doing in our community, specifically geared toward minors, is saving lives and bringing hope to children desperately in need of healing and genuine love. This Restoration Home will provide a much needed (and often unknown) stable, safe environment where these young hearts, minds, and bodies are given a chance to heal and where young girls can realize they are valuable, loved children of God with an amazing future ahead of them.

We support Mirror Ministries' vision to see local victims of sex trafficking become survivors who experience life-restoration. Our hope is that as The County reviews the details of CUP 2019-09, there will be a clear understanding of the parameters and intent of Restoration House, and a recognition of the added value and benefits of supporting such a home, right here in our community.

If I can be of any assistance, please feel free to contact me at 509-735-1650
thom@thegardentricities.com. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Thom Fields
Lead Pastor
The Garden

January 28, 2020



Franklin County Planning Commission
c/o Derrick Braaten
Director of Planning and Building
502 W Boeing Street
Pasco, WA 99301

SUBJECT: Mirror Ministries CUP 2019-09

Dear Mr. Braaten:

I am writing in support of Mirror Ministries and their effort to purchase property in Franklin County for the purpose of operating a Restoration Home for abused female youth.

I am retired from the Oregon Department of Corrections, Victim Services Unit. Having worked with many crime victims over the years, I understand the unique support and help they need to overcome the trauma they have endured.

I am so impressed by Mirror Ministries and what they have accomplished in the Tri-Cities in just a few short years. They have tremendous support from local churches and a solid volunteer base. The needs of their young clients are great, and the extent that Mirror Ministries can assist them heavily depends not just on finances and volunteers, but local government support.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this Conditional Use Permit request. I believe it would strengthen our local community in the fight against sex trafficking.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen Roddy". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Karen Roddy
8701 W Clearwater Pl
Kennewick, WA 99336

From the desk of

Pastor Dustin Meyers

CUP-2019-09

RECEIVED

FEB 04 2020

FRANKLIN COUNTY
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Dear Mr. Braaten and team,

I write in support of the endeavor of Mirror Ministries to operate a home for sex trafficking victims in your jurisdiction. I work closely with Mirror Ministries and have often used their help and expertise in rescuing young ladies from dangerous and abusive situations. These folks are the real deal.

I hope that this community finds itself to be full of the kinds of people who want to be welcoming and helpful to those whose only other place to turn is a place of abuse and slavery. My wife and I have taken these young ladies into our home and will happily continue to do so. But the need is too big for that to be of much help. The only way to help the hurting victims here is for our communities to adopt the attitude of Jesus Christ, who "did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."

Your community is well-served. They have educators and 1st responders, many of whom I know personally, and they have an administration who takes the time to read these letters. Now, having been served so well, I ask ~~you~~ your community to serve those who are in the greatest and most dire need. You are the ones God put here to help. Please use your power to do good in the world. Romans 13:6. Thank you for your consideration.

-Dustin Meyers

dustin @

GraceAnd Truth Community.com
Cell: 206-321-4012



Franklin County Planning Commission
c/o Derrick Braaten, Director of Planning and Building
502 W. Boeing Street
Pasco, WA 99301
January 30, 2020
Subject: Mirror Ministries CUP 2019-09

Dear Mr. Braaten,

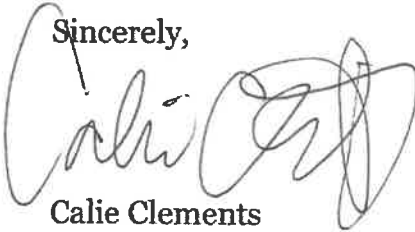
Thank you for your time and consideration. I am writing to support Mirror Ministries as they continue their efforts to purchase property to help the restoration of minors who have been survivors of sex trafficking.

I have had the privilege to volunteer and now work for Mirror Ministries. They have done a tremendous job in being advocates for the community, bringing awareness, and walking along side survivors to see them be victorious in their endeavors. I sit at the front desk and have the honor to meet the survivors and welcome them into our facility. They are incredible, resilient, and strong women who smile yet they have endured such pain.

This home would be a light in the darkness for these girls. This is a huge opportunity for our community to rally around those that have been oppressed. They need a place to be a kid again, find peace, love, and the nurturing care that was taken away from them.

Thank you to the Franklin County Planning and Building Department for taking the time to consider this Conditional Use Permit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Calie Clements", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Calie Clements

January 31, 2020

Franklin County Planning Commission
Derrick Braaten, Director of Planning and Building
Reference Number: Mirror Ministries CUP 2019-09

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Edith Paulson and I am new to Mirror-Ministries. I was hired on in November of 2019 as an advocate and I absolutely love what I do. My previous employer was Benton-Franklin Juvenile Justice Center. We were informed of the signs of trafficking, unfortunately we were able to spot numerous kids who were/are being trafficked in the Tri-Cities thanks to the information provided by a Mirror-Ministries' advocate. Whilst working at the juvenile justice center, I noticed the kids not having a safe place whilst in care of their guardian (the person who they are supposed to trust and turn to if they have any issues), there were numerous reasons as to why, some being: drugs and alcoholism, parent's selling their kids, along with physical and emotional abuse. We have a youth shelter, but it only houses up to 12 kids, and that's only if they have enough staff! Mirror-Ministries wants to provide a safe haven for kids who don't have a voice but want to know what safe feels like.

Working for Mirror-Ministries these past couple of months has been a blessing I have personally seen the amount of work they do for the community, especially trying to spread awareness of sex trafficking within our community. As an advocate, I support survivors whether it be speaking, writing, or acting in their defense. I make sure they feel comfortable enough to speak when they cannot and empower them to face things in a manner, they can without having PTSD. The survivors that we have/had are terrified to not only stand up to their trafficker but become paranoid when they do due to fear of being killed. Again, Mirror-Ministries wants to provide a safe haven for survivors to not only feel safe but to feel at home. With this restoration home, those survivors will be able to take a breath for the first time in a long time.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Edith Paulson
edith@mirror-ministries.org
509.827.7249