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Maureen Donegan
Coordinator of VFV CoSA
Catholic Justice Services Society

To whom it may concern:

We would like to offer our support for the valuable services that CoSA has to offer. Ford Mountain Correctional Centre, and particularly the Integrated Transitional and Release program team, work closely with Maureen Donegan to connect our clients to the social support network she offers through the CoSA program.

Many of the clients that come through our doors have limited, or no, positive social supports in the communities they came from. Several of the sexual offenders we work with reported that having no positive connections and loneliness were factors in their offence cycle. What Maureen, through CoSA, offers them is hope and much needed prosocial connections as they transition back into society.

We have connected numerous individuals with CoSA, through Maureen, prior to their release from custody in an effort to enhance their success in the community and reduce recidivism through the accountability and support they receive. It is a vital part of their rehabilitation and reintegration into society. After hearing personal testimonies from the men we have referred, I am confident that if it were not for the fellowship they receive through CoSA, some of them would be back into their offence cycle.

Funding for CoSA is critically important to ensure that as many men as possible are able to receive these valuable services. Not only do the men benefit from the support but so too does the community, as these individuals remain accountable to the members of their circle and are less likely to reoffend.

Sincerely,



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