

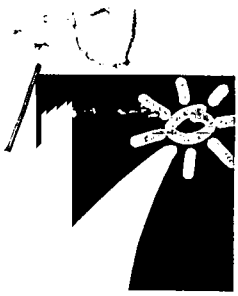
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February 28, 2001

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Board of County Commissioners
Manatee County



MANATEE
GLENS

"When Life Hurts...
...Manatee Glens
is Here to Help"

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Vice Chairman

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Austin R. Pickering
Constance K. Shingledecker

Mary Ruiz
President/CEO

Commissioner Joe McClash, Chairman
Manatee County Board of County Commissioners
P. O. Box 1000
Bradenton, FL 34206

Dear Commissioner McClash:

The Manatee Glens Board of Directors respectfully requests that an emergency indigent health care funding item be placed on the Manatee County Board of County Commissioners' agenda within the next two weeks.

Manatee Glens provided \$5.49 million in audited charity care for its fiscal year ending June 2000. This is a \$1.14 million increase from the prior year. The primary cause of the increase is indigent medical detoxification of Manatee County residents. Continuing to provide medically necessary indigent detoxification services in excess of our public funding has exhausted the cash reserves of Manatee Glens.

The community faces some major decisions concerning the provision of care for uninsured residents requiring medical detoxification. Any change in services at Manatee Glens will have a profound effect on the Manatee County Sheriff's Office, Manatee Memorial Hospital, and others.

Manatee Glens is requesting an emergency, one-time funding request of \$400,000 to allow us to continue to provide the services from April 1, 2001, through September 30, 2001. This would allow the County time to develop a permanent plan for services with Manatee Glens and other affected agencies.

The Manatee Glens Board of Directors acknowledges that one option open to the community is to discontinue these services at Manatee Glens. While we understand fiscal realities of indigent health care funding, we sincerely hope this does not become necessary. We know that treatment works. Only 5% of all those admitted for detoxification services at Manatee Glens are readmitted within a year.

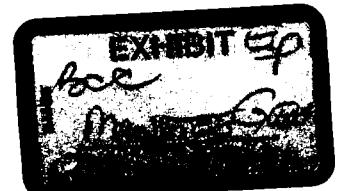
Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

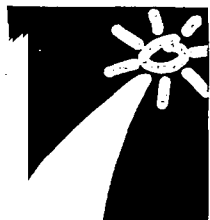
Robert H. Stewart
Chairman

cc: Manatee County Commissioners
Ernie Padgett
Fred Loveland

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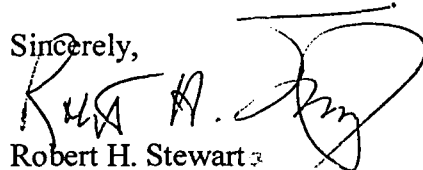
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