

Women's Aid Service, Inc.

Serving Clare, Gratiot and Isabella Counties

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February 19, 2018

Ms. Kaye Peasley
746 S. Shepherd Rd.
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Dear Ms. Peasley:

Clothing Inc. has been a great and much needed addition to our community. Many community members need appropriate clothing for the seasons and/or occasion. Women's Aid Service, Inc. clients rely heavily on Clothing Inc. for this clothing as often our clients, victims and survivors of domestic and sexual violence leave most everything behind when they come into our emergency safe shelter.

When victims of abuse enter shelter, they often do not have much to start with. Some enter with no coats or shoes as they often are fleeing with only the clothes on their back. We keep undergarments and loungewear on site but we do not have the storage capacity to keep ample amounts of needed clothing. Clothing Inc. is often one of the first referrals we make if we have an immediate need. When our clients have a need, be it immediate or specific, Clothing Inc. makes every attempt to fulfill the request. Many of our referred clients to Clothing Inc. have told us Clothing Inc. staff and volunteers make them feel welcome and unashamed. For some, it is a treat just to go "shopping". Finding quality items that help to make them feel confident, visible and stronger. This is important to our clients as they are already in an uncomfortable situation. For some, it is just about satisfying basic needs (i.e. socks, a winter coat, church clothes or an outfit for an interview). They are further impressed when they discover Clothing Inc. even has some outfits already put together and accessorized.

We have a significant amount of generous community members seeking to donate clothing to our agency. When we do not have the capacity to store the donations we direct them to Clothing Inc. We explain to the donors Clothing Inc.'s service is free to all in the community who have the need including our clients.

We strongly support Clothing Inc.'s mission. When agencies in our communities collaborate, it is much easier to meet the needs of our community while reducing duplication of services. Please accept this letter as Women's Aid Service, Inc. support of Clothing Inc. It is our hope they will have the ability to continue its mission.

Sincerely,


John R. Haycook
Executive Director
Women's Aid Service, Inc.



Toll Free 24-Hour Crisis Line: 1-844-349-6177

