



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ON CRIME AND DELINQUENCY

April 29, 2015

Ms. Cathleen Palm
Founder
The Center for Children's Justice
P.O. Box 396
Bernville, Pennsylvania 19506

Dear Ms. Palm: *CATHY*

Chairman Shapiro has asked that I respond to your letter of April 22, 2015, in which you offered a number of observations and suggestions regarding the Commonwealth's approach to responding to child victims. You and I discussed a number of these issues in our recent meeting and I agree that they are matters of critical importance.

As you requested, your letter was distributed to the members of both our Victim Services Advisory Committee and our Children's Advocacy Center Advisory Committee (CACAC). In addition, at the April 23, 2015 planning meeting of the CACAC, Chairman Heckler summarized your recommendations relating to the Endowment Act (Act 1 of 2013) which, as you know, was the subject of that meeting.

The CACAC did not agree with your suggestion that, "Before awarding any funding, Pennsylvania should drive intentional review of child protection funding streams and strategies across disciplines, state agencies and communities." There are immediate needs in the eligible categories of Act 1 that need to be addressed and, given the limited amount of funding that will likely be awarded in the first funding cycle, it would not be sound public policy to delay these awards until the long-standing problem that you identified is addressed.

In the near future, I will be meeting with Secretary Dallas to discuss a variety of issues, including those which you described in your letter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have further suggestions or if you have additional information that you would like to provide.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Linda Rosenberg", written over a horizontal line.

Linda Rosenberg
Executive Director

cc: Josh Shapiro