

# THE FAMILY CENTER

November 20, 1991

To Whom It May Concern;


I am writing on behalf of The Family Center which is a group practice of five licensed Clinical Social Workers. We all have backgrounds in adolescent residential treatment and extensive experience in addressing issues of sexual and physical abuse. Currently we have a contract with El Paso County Department of Social Services to provide therapeutic intervention to incest victims. Most of our caseload in addition to these Social Service clients is comprised of sexual abuse and assault victims of all ages. Many of these clients receive treatment in a group format; and it is in this context that a need has arisen for self defense training. Primary issues in such groups are personal empowerment; prevention of further victimization; self protection; and assertiveness. Self Defense could play a vital role in these treatment goals.

We have been familiar with Matthew Bailey's Fighting Chance program for several years. He and his program have an excellent reputation in this community and he has devoted both time and skill to helping people who have experienced physical or sexual assault. As a small group of private practitioners, we do not have the financial resources that would enable us to take advantage of such a quality program. We do however have a significant group of clients that could stand to benefit from self defense training if we were able to obtain it. There is a high degree of need for self defense training among this population which otherwise might not have the opportunity to participate.

If you need any further information, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

  
Susan Wich, L.C.S.W.

  
Lisa White, L.C.S.W.

(719) 471-1816

611 North Weber, Suite 201 Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903