

March 8, 2021

To Whom It May Concern,

The Petersburg Borough Assembly writes this letter in support of Working Against Violence for Everyone's (WAVE) application for the Transitional Housing Assistance Grant for Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking, offered by the Office on Violence Against Women, to initiate a transitional housing program in Petersburg, Alaska.

This program will be used to ensure victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking have an option for a healthy, self-sufficient lifestyle, free from their perpetrator. A transitional housing program in Petersburg will create new opportunities for recovery through stable housing and education. This project is important to the health of our community and will help fill the need for additional affordable housing.

Petersburg does not have an emergency shelter and housing options are scarce. Strides are being made to increase housing options with multiple new developments currently underway. One of our goals is to expand the range, affordability, and quality of housing in the community while maintaining attractive, livable residential neighborhoods.

The Petersburg Borough Assembly supports WAVE's ongoing efforts to improve access to quality housing for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in our community. Dedicated housing options will allow victims to become survivors and give them the opportunity to thrive in our community as well as increase their economic growth. We fully support the goals of this project and look forward to hearing about its success.

Sincerely,

Mark Jensen Mayor