From:
To: City Clerk

Subject: General Public Comment

Date: Wednesday, March 1, 2023 8:47:51 PM

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good Morning,

- 1) Somos Una Voz is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to educate and empower families of people with disabilities in the Victor Valley. Our program connects these families to local resources, agencies, and services to support their family member's needs. We also host monthly educational workshops and seminars and collaborate with community-based recreational activities such as adaptive team sports and social events to promote the inclusion and quality of life for Victorville residents with disabilities and their families.
- 2) Somos Una Voz targets the underserved families of people with disabilities of low income in the Victor Valley. This demographic faces many challenges in navigating the system of services and resources to support their disabled family members. They face economic, language, and cultural barriers as well as technological and educational gaps which hinder their access to the network of supportive services, agencies, and resources for people with disabilities in our community. To date, Somos Una Voz is the only support group for people with disabilities in the Victor Valley which provides comprehensive access to resources, community outreach, and social programming for this particular demographic.
- 3) These families benefit from the educational programs our support group offers through monthly meetings as well as appointment-based 1:1 consultation to discuss the family's needs, provide education about their concerns, and connect the family to the relevant supportive services, resources, or local agencies. In addition to providing the families served by our group with access to educational resources and services, we also connect them to local social events and recreational activities such as adaptive team sports to maximize their inclusion in their community and enhance their skills, self-esteem, and quality of life.

 I'm also a parent of an adult with Down Syndrome and Autism.

Betty Carrillo Founder/CEO Somos Una Voz Grupo de Apoyo Cell (760) 987-6691 Follow us on Facebook Somos Una Voz Grupo de Apoyo