

Safe Havens Program at Risk of Closing

The Safe Havens Supervised Visitation Program, operated by the Nurturing Center for the past two years, has lost its federal funding. "Our grant with the Department of Justice ended on August 31, 2007, and I have not secured adequate funding to ensure its continued operation," states Susan Christofferson, Executive Director of the organization.

Families using the services pay on a sliding fee basis based on their ability to pay. "The program needs the supplemental funds from a grant or other sources in order to remain financially viable," Christofferson further acknowledged. "We are devastated that children could lose parental contact, but we are hopeful that we can continue reuniting children with their parents in a safe and secure environment," she continued.

The amount of \$75,000 is needed to fill the gap between the end of this grant and the beginning of a new grant in September 2008. The Nurturing Center is conducting a public campaign pleading for financial support to keep the doors open. Tax-deductible donations may be sent to 146 3rd Avenue West, Kalispell, MT 59901.