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OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

NO. LTC # 182-2013

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission'S OFFICE

FROM: Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager

DATE: May 23, 2013

SUBJECT: Update of Efforts to Offset Federal Sequester Impacts on Elder Meal Sites

The purpose of this Letter to Commission (LTC) is to provide you with an update on efforts to mitigate the impact of the federal sequestration on elder meal sites operating within our City as well as ensure clarification as to the budget cuts being addressed.

On May 1, 2013, Little Havana Activities & Nutrition Centers and Jewish Community Services of South Florida were notified that their awards from the Alliance for Aging, which locally distributes the State Formula funds for the *Older American Act* programs, would experience immediate reductions effective May 6th as a result of the federal sequester. The *Older American Act* cuts follow a series of budget cuts from other funding sources that have been experienced since 2010. These cuts have come from a variety of funding sources including the USDA Nutrition Incentive Services Program and the United Way of Miami-Dade.

On Friday, May 17th, staff convened a conference with executive staff from both providers. The purpose of this meeting was to clarify the extent of the sequester cuts and the actions taken by the providers to address the shortfalls. The following chart depicts the sequester cuts and their extended daily and weekly cost by site:

Site	Provider	Meals Served as of 5/1/13	Meals Served as of 5/6/13	Daily Budget Shortfall	Weekly Budget Shortfall
Rebecca Towers	Little Havana ANC	115	81	\$ 215.90	\$1,079.50
Council Towers South	Little Havana ANC	80	56	\$ 152.40	\$762.00
Stella Maris	Little Havana ANC	35	25	\$ 63.50	\$317.50
South Shore Com. Ctr.	JCS	65	55	\$ 56.20	\$281.00
Federation Towers	JCS	45	40	\$ 28.10	\$ 140.50

Since the sequester cuts have been announced, the community has mobilized to mitigate the impact of lost funds. As of this writing, Little Havana Activities & Nutrition Center was provided with \$140,000 from Miami-Dade County to cover the shortfall created among all of its countywide sites and has been in talks with the municipalities of Hialeah and Miami to offset the cost in those cities.

Private entities have also come forward to help. On May 16th, Centerplate issued Little Havana Activities & Nutrition Centers a check for \$6,000. An additional private donor has provided the Mayor's Office with a check for \$1,500 and expressed a willingness to help raise more funds. The Offices of Commissioners Gongora and Wolfson have each donated funds to offset the budget shortfall for sites operated by Little Havana Activities & Nutrition Center.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please feel free to contact me.

C: Executive Staff
Maria Ruiz, Director, Office of Community Services

JLM/KGB/MM/MLR