

March 9, 2021

## Re: Letter of support for Rotary of Butte District Grant Request – Action Inc. Homeless Youth Housing Project

To Whom it May Concern:

Action Inc. is excited that Rotary of Butte is willing to support and collaborate with our Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program – Transitional Housing (YHDP). Action Inc. is a Community Action Agency serving six-counties in Southwest Montana including, Butte-Silver Bow. We are dedicated to developing pathways out of poverty through innovative, community-based, collaborative approaches.

Action Inc. identified low-income youth as one of its focus areas in its 2017-2021 Strategic Plan. Indicators of child well-being in Southwest Montana point to a need to develop support systems for youth and young adults. Within the Action Inc. service area, the child poverty rate is higher than rates from both the state of Montana and the United States; over 22.5% of children and youth in the service area live below the poverty level. Data from the National Youth in Transition Database indicates that approximately 21% of youth transitioning out of foster care in Montana have experienced homelessness by age 17. The fact that the rate of children in foster care in Silver Bow County is significantly higher than the national rate also points to a need to address youth homelessness.

Partnerships with community-based service organizations like Rotary of Butte and Action Inc. can provide the resources, support and guidance youth and young adults living in poverty need to become successful.

We urge the District Rotary Grant Program to provide funding to the Butte Rotary to assist this worthwhile project. If you have questions or need additional information regarding this project and collaboration, please call me at (406) 533-6874 and I will be happy to discuss it with you. Thank you again for your consideration.

Sincerely.

Margie Seccomb

Chief Executive Officer

Action Inc. | 25 West Silver Street | Butte, MT | 59701