









June 12, 2017

Dr. Kimberly Holmes, Director Office of Title III Programs Albany State University Albany, GA 31705.

Dear Dr. Holmes,

We are pleased to provide this letter of support for Dr. George Thomas' application.

Lily Pad SANE Center is an umbrella organization housing the Firefly House Children's Advocacy Center, the Boren Center for Sexual Violence (which offers Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners' expert services to rape victims and the Rape Crisis Program), CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate), and PAVES (our access and visitation program for non-custodial parents). Lily Pad is regionally recognized for its exceptional delivery of comprehensive services to victims and families impacted by crimes of sexual assault and child sexual/physical abuse. Services provided are developmentally appropriate and specialized to meet the distinctive needs of each individual impacted by crimes of sexual violence. Since opening its doors in 2006, the Lily Pad has helped over 3,000 primary and secondary victims, offering a safe haven for abused children and adult victims, providing referral to long-term psychological treatment for victims and their families, and assisting in the investigation of abuse cases. All services are offered at no cost to the individuals who were abused.

Mental health issues among college students may be the result of prior abuse or sexual violence, or can lead to unhealthy coping mechanisms which may then put the student at risk of experiencing sexual abuse or violence. Lily Pad will work with ASU as a member of the advisory board for this program and will provide educational programing on campus relating to sexual assault and rape.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mary Martinez

Executive Director

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