



MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

COMMUNITY CHOIR SAN DIEGO

A California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

May 3, 2016

Nick Macchione, FACHE
Agency Director,
1600 Pacific Highway, Room 206
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Mr. Macchione:

I am pleased to inform you that on April 30, 2016, the board of directors of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Choir San Diego (MLKCCSD) unanimously voted to commit to the Live Well San Diego vision, and to becoming a recognized partner. MLKCCSD is a non-profit charitable organization. The Choir's purpose is to raise funds through a series of concerts for educational grants that we distribute to aspiring college-bound high school majors in Visual and Performing Arts from the San Diego County area.

MLKCCSD is an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. The purpose of the choir is to promote the artistic growth of children and youth in the metropolitan San Diego region; to serve as a cultural ambassador in regional, national and international concerts and seminars; to promote arts education through performances primarily of traditional and contemporary spirituals and gospel music and provide the historical context for this repertoire. Our music, which is inspirational and uplifting, celebrates the history of the Negro Spiritual.

Since 1997, MLKCCSD has been performing gospel concerts to raise funds for educational grants to give to San Diego County high school seniors pursuing a college degree in the Visual or Performing Arts. The choir has performed both locally and internationally including a 2004 tour to the Czech Republic, Austria and Italy; as well as performing in Denmark and The Netherlands in 2009. In 2015, the choir's second recording was released. By the end of calendar year 2016, the choir will have performed in Carnegie Hall for a second time, and participated in a choir festival in Vienna, Austria. To date, through a variety of fundraising efforts, MLKCCSD has provided 87 educational grants to youth, totaling over \$176,000.

Our longstanding interest and work in the arts, volunteerism and education contributes to collective impact in San Diego County:

- We are committed to Building Better Health by identifying and promoting healthy food options that are included as part of choir social events, selected rehearsals and the annual grant award concert for the community.
- We are committed to Living Safely by continuing to offer a method for spiritual healing and a sense of community through the preparation and delivery of choir concerts throughout the San Diego region and beyond.
- We are committed to Thriving by continuing to provide meaningful volunteer opportunities to the community; soliciting youth involvement in community service activities; continuing to support the educational advancement of San Diego County youth; and continuing to educate concert attendees and volunteer choir members on the rich cultural content and historical significance of the music that is sung by the choir.

Nick Macchione
LIVE WELL SAN DIEGO PARTNERSHIP
May 3, 2016

MLKCCSD is an ethnically and spiritually diverse volunteer group with a passion for the youth of our region and the building of greater community among all of people. As such, our purpose, actions and outcomes are in perfect harmony with the County's Live Well San Diego vision. We look forward to joining the ranks of other committed partners in doing what we do best to improve the health and wellbeing of our region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cherry Arnold-Verry". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Cherry Arnold-Verry, President
Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Choir San Diego

cc: Danny Melgoza, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of Supervisor Greg Cox, District 1