

To Whom It May Concern:

I have reviewed the proposed Opportunity Village development and am pleased to offer my support of Betty's Village as a community based residential setting for people with disabilities. The residents of Betty's Village will engage in an active life, be integrated in society, have support of individual choice, and be encouraged to foster independence to the highest degree possible.

- Betty's Village will be integrated in and support full access of individuals receiving Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) to the greater community, including opportunities to seek employment and work in competitive integrated settings, engage in community life, control personal resources and receive services in the community, to the same degree of access as individuals not receiving Medicaid HCBS.*
- Based on the live, work, play, learn and create philosophy, Betty's Village is a place where everyone knows each other, people can follow their dreams and are encouraged and supported to become the best they possibly can be.*
- A community center will provide individuals with daily opportunities to socialize, make new friends and participate with others through playing video games, classes (exercise, dance etc.), and just "hang out." The general public will be welcomed at the village to interact and participate in activities with individuals, and make friendships.*
- Meals will be prepared in each home and be served family style.*
- Every resident will have a private bedroom with in-suite bath that can be decorated according to their own style.*

Encouraging interaction, independence and self-determination is the key to a full and fulfilling life. Betty's Village includes the many components needed to encourage greater independence and self-direction while ensuring the appropriate supports are available. I am in support of the project.

Sincerely,

*Name
Vicki Ritchie*