



Family Resource Services

(A Non-Profit Organization)

Tax ID: 20-8560835

March 26, 2026

Waller County
Honorable Judge Trey Duhon III
425 FM 1488, Suite 106
Hempstead, TX 77484

Dear Judge Duhon,

Family Ties, Family Resource Services, has provided services to child victims and their families in Waller County for the past 19 years. Starting as a grass roots 501(c)3 family crisis center, we have filled the gaps in services provided to this marginal and vulnerable population with trauma informed wrap around services by seasoned and licensed professionals with more than 58 years of experience providing developmentally appropriate treatment for child victims of family violence, sexual violence, bullying, dating violence, child abuse and other crisis issues that have a detrimental impacts and often lead to generational violence. Our multi-pronged approach prioritizing children's trauma, supporting caregiving family members, and providing primary prevention has proven to be incredibly effective in providing quality care and primary prevention that promotes healing at the individual, family, and community level as well as stopping violence before it starts. Since Family Ties' origination the demand for services that recognize children as primary victims and provides trauma informed care at appropriate developmental levels while serving the needs of the entire family has now tripled due to the explosive growth flowing from Hwy 290 and Interstate 10. Family Ties' engages with multiple community partners in Waller County including: Waller ISD, Waller County DA's & Family Law office, Sheriff's Office, local PD's, TDPRS, House of Help, WARM, TXFNE(Texas Forensic Nurse Examiners), United Way along with several other community stakeholders. To accommodate the needs created Family Ties has expanded its services to include a Drop-in Center for youth to help prevent Sexual Exploitation and the Mueller House, a 12 bed, 12 bath facility for youth/young adult who have been victimized, ages 17-22 to provide a stop gap between homelessness, crime, and sexual exploitation has been open for three years and is currently at capacity. This transitional program has graduated 9 Seniors from High School and another 4 expected to graduate this year. The program has also supported 3 military enlistments, and 4 degree or certification seeking participants.

In addition, we have a partnership with United Way and have facilitated a Flexible Funding program for the past 6 years. This program supports families that are at risk of becoming homeless, are victims of crime, having difficulty maintaining utilities, unable to afford medical appointments and prescription needs, and other basic needs who reside in Waller County. From April of 2022 to date, Family Ties has received and administrated \$442,000 to residence of Waller County which significantly impacted the county by supporting health and mental health, reducing homelessness, food instability, as well as reducing survival crime as basic needs are met. We are currently in the second year of our 2nd 3-year cycle of funding; however, these are passthrough funds and do not cover the costs to administrate.

At this time, we are requested the budgeted allocation for Family Ties in the amount of \$20,000. All programs and services are intentional and are intended to provide true wrap-round services. Although our services are typically geared to providing victim services, with an emphasis on children, our agency is seen as a place where anyone in the community can come for help. Family Ties appreciates Waller County recognizing our commitment

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by providing budgeted funds. If you have any questions or need further clarification of our request, please contact me. Family Ties' thanks the Commissioners Court for partnering with us in "Providing Hope Through Healing" and creating a community where violence in any form is not tolerated.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Heather M. Stautmeister". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Heather M. Stautmeister MA, MS, LPC-S
Executive Director/Therapist

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