To Whom it May Concern,

We Care Treatment Center are pleased that ARTreach has partnered with our treatment facility to bring artistic expression to our youth. We Care Treatment Center is a 24 hour residential facility for teenaged females that have been diagnosed with emotional and behavioral issues. Our residents typically stay here for approximately 6 months to one year.

Artist, Vickie McMillan has been the working with our residents for about three years. She has a supportive and compassionate relationship with the girls. They are able to reveal and express their feelings through the art projects and through group discussions before a project is attempted. Ms. McMillan is able to draw out inner feelings in the youth that many times they have previously buried and were too fearful to express.

We Care Treatment residents state that the art projects teach them how to focus, it calms them, self motivating and reduces stress. They found that art can be another way to express their feelings, without being verbal. The residents are able to know their peers better and learn to master team work. For some youth, they come away with spiritual healing. The residents have a sense of pride with a completed project, accomplishing something that they earlier could not envision themselves being able to do. They are able to view issues in new perspectives, and discover their artistic abilities.

The art work that Ms. McMillan has completed with We Care Treatment Center residents is displayed in our facility. The girls take great pride in explaining the art work to their family members and other visitors to the facility.

Thank you for your time in reviewing the benefits of the ARTreach program at We Care Treatment Center.

Kathryn Ross
Administrator
We Care Treatment Center/Houston Wee Care Shelter