



## HAMLET OF GJOA HAVEN

Box 200, Gjoa Haven, Nunavut, X0B 1J0

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August 15, 2017

Honourable George Hickes  
Minister of Health

Honourable Johnny Mike  
Minister of Family Services

Tabled Document 342-4(3)

Sept 12/17

Dear Sirs:

On August 8, 2017 the Hamlet of Gjoa Haven's Mayor and Council passed a motion to support the construction of a Regionalized Mental Health Facility in Gjoa Haven. Mental Health problems are an increasing concern in Gjoa Haven and other surrounding communities. Unfortunately Gjoa Haven has been experiencing a substantial increase in both homicides and suicides which we feel are directly related to the absence of professional mental health support.

We fully support this proposal and would welcome such a facility to our community.

  
Joanni Sallerina  
Mayor

31 July, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

**Re: Gjoa Haven Community Mental Health Services**

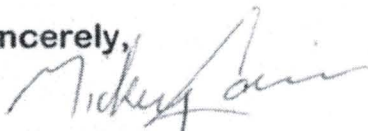
Recently, Gjoa Haven MLA Tony Akoak asked me to draft a letter in support of initiatives to strengthen existing mental health services and make new mental health services available in Gjoa Haven. Several tragedies have struck the community in recent months and our hope is that ways can be found to increase health, hope and healing in Gjoa Haven.

Among possibilities discussed were the following:

- The hiring of an additional Mental Health Worker for the community.
- Procurement of a building for mental health outreach and counselling services in Gjoa Haven.
- Gjoa Haven as the location for a Health Canada funded Regional or Territorial Healing Centre.
- Procurement of a building to provide services to the homeless.

I trust more excellent ideas are on the way and heartily support Mr. Akoak in his vision for a strong and prosperous Gjoa Haven.

Sincerely,



**Mickey Cain**  
Supervisor, Child and Family Services  
Gjoa Haven, NU

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**TO:** Tony Akoak  
**FROM:** Vanessa Miles RN  
**RE:** Request for Funding Group home & 1 respite bed  
**DATE:** July 18, 2017

As the current mental health nurse here in Gjoa Haven, I work closely Lucy Akoak, the Community Outreach Worker to care for the people here in Gjoa Haven with long term mental illnesses and crisis situations.

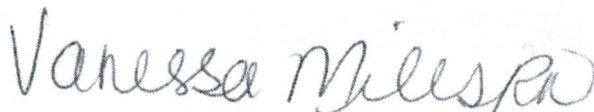
I would like to request funding for a house for respite, to accommodate people in crisis or difficult to manage in the community or while waiting for placement, addiction treatment, or long term mental health placement.

The importance of creating this is not only to have a place for people who are awaiting long term treatment placement but for people and their family that are in crisis. People in crisis and their family, need somewhere to go to feel safe to decompress from the situation that is currently causing them great stress and anxiety.

Not only will this provided Gjoa Haven with another resource to help the people of Gjoa Haven but create jobs for the community. By creating jobs for the community it will encourage people to further their education with a chance of a potential job. This in of itself will create a definite increase in the self-worth and self-esteem to an already resourceful community, also increase the morale of the community as a bi product as well.

As well as increase the mental health of those is the community by having a place, that is safe, calm and away from personal stressors.

Thank you for considering this request. Please let me know if you need any additional information that may influence your decision to approve funding.



Vanessa Miles RN  
Mental Health Nurse

February 13, 2014

Mr. Tony Akoak  
MLA  
Gjoa Haven  
Gjoa Haven, Nu  
X0B 1J0

Re: Request for Homeless Shelter – Gjoa Haven


Gjoa Haven is in urgent need of more public housing. At present there are 49 families who have applied for housing, many of which have been waiting for several years.

Often families will move from house to house to find a place to stay, and are always at risk of being kicked out. If they have no place to stay, the only option is to move to a cabin which can often be dangerous in the winter months.

Therefore, the lack of a homeless shelter in Gjoa Haven is causing major issues. There are no options for someone who must leave the unit they live in to get away from a partner or someone else they live with.

Kikitak Housing Association urgently requests that an abandoned unit in Gjoa Haven be renovated for the purpose of providing temporary shelter to the community's homeless population.

Sincerely yours,



Chairperson  
c. file