NOV 1 2003

604 Longfellow Drive
Branford, CT 06405
October 11, 2003

RE: Thursday's Child
227 Tunxis Avenue
Bloomfield, CT 06002

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to show my appreciation and support for Thursday's Child. It is my understanding that at the present time, agencies like Thursday's Child are in jeopardy. I would like to share some of my experiences as an adoptive single parent who started as a client of this agency about 18 years ago and continue to maintain a supportive relationship with Thursday's Child.

When I initially decided to adopt as a single parent, I spent a great deal of time researching agencies that would be receptive to me. What I found for the most part, at least at that time (18 years ago), was a small group of agencies, some of them charging exorbitant amounts of money and no one offering much support. Admittedly, I took a couple of wrong turns on the adoption road, but I, finally, found Thursday's Child. They offered me support, encouragement and hand holding when necessary and were the most parent "friendly" group of people I ever met. They shared my joy when my son, Scott, arrived from India in March of 1987. It has been wonderful to see children and families over the years at Thursday's Child gatherings - new families being made at each gathering, reminding us all of the first time we "met" our children and being thankful all over again for the agency that helped us find each other.

In this "business" of adoption, surely there has to be a place for an agency like Thursday's Child and the work of its' Director, Iris Arenson-Fuller. I cannot imagine what my life would have been like without them. I waited for a long time to be a mother and now I forget what it was like not to be one. Thursday's Child and Iris had a great part in guiding this almost seventeen-year-old swimmer, high honor student, grandson, would-be driver, roller coaster loving, pizza eating, church going, "music" lover, son into my life. I hope that in the future many other people will be touched as our family has been by Thursday's Child

Sincerely

Betsy B. Mussmann

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