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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

_____ and STARRY, Inc.

I. PURPOSE

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between members of STARRY, Inc. and _____ is to:

- (1) Ensure a clear understanding of the mission and work of the STARRY Family Support Services (FSS) Program and the supportive role STARRY will provide to _____ and
- (2) Build and/or enhance collaborative efforts between STARRY and _____ to strengthen (and not duplicate) work and services for children and families.

II. MISSION AND WORK

STARRY's funding from the Texas Health and Human Services Commission's (HHSC) FSS program, along with the generosity of our donors, allows us to provide short-term, strengths-based counseling services at no cost to clients. STARRY's Family and Youth Success (FAYS) program provides individual, group, and family counseling services, as well as parenting skills and case management services to families with youth ages 6-17. The FAYS program serves families in 31 counties throughout the State of Texas. STARRY's Fatherhood Effect (FE) program provides individual, family, and father-focused group services to fathers and father-figures with children up to age 17 in Bell, Coryell, Lampasas, McLennan, and Williamson Counties. The Fatherhood program aims to increase father engagement using a Father-Positive approach to advocate for greater inclusion of fathers in their roles.

The purpose of the present collaboration is to provide accessible services to **youth and their families/fathers and father-figures** in _____ County. Referrals to STARRY utilize existing resources and benefit from collaboration by STARRY with third parties to leverage their combined resources. The complexity of life issues and the unique needs of families offers us the opportunity to develop a multi-agency response that leverages the complementary skills and resources of those agencies. Therefore, this sharing of resources and expertise across agencies will provide the best possible opportunity for children and families to be successful.

III. AGREEMENT

The partners agree that working together to provide services to **children and families/fathers and father-figures** will help enhance the services the parties can offer the community and to promote successful change. **The partners agree that parents/guardians must consent for services to be delivered to youth and their families.** The partners agree to work collaboratively by referring potential clients to STARRY, Inc. when appropriate in order to provide comprehensive care to the community. The partners agree that STARRY will be the sole possessor of confidential records of STARRY services and that no confidential client information will be shared without a written Release of Information (ROI) from the client. The partners further agree that there will be a Release of Information for all clients that are seen at the facility of _____ in order to be able to work collaboratively together toward **family/fatherhood** success.

_____ will provide a space for STARRY to utilize for its clients. This space will be available at no cost.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION

The implementation of this agreement becomes effective upon signing. This MOU will remain in effect until action is initiated to dissolve the agreement as evidenced by written notice from an authorized representative of either party. Any amendments to the MOU shall be in writing and executed in the same manner as the original MOU.

Agency: _____

Printed Name and Title _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Agency: STARRY, Inc.

Printed Name and Title: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____