

### AFFIDAVIT OF MECHIKO WHITE

This Affiant Mechiko White being duly sworn hereby states as follows:

1. My name is Mechiko White. I am over the age of 18 and I am competent to make this Affidavit. I have never been disqualified from testifying by any judicial or administrative tribunal.

2. I am the executive director of Trinity United Methodist Outreach Center located at 5110 Forest Boulevard, Washington Park, Illinois 62204. The Outreach Center has existed since 1996 and was incorporated in 2001. It is a community neighborhood outreach that provides a host of support services for members of the community. Services provided include emergency food pantry, after school care, and health and wellness services.

3. The Outreach Center serves the metro east area of the St. Louis metropolitan area. Most of our clients are African American and Hispanic families. They are often poor, homeless, senior citizens, mothers, or disabled.

4. I know and am personally acquainted with Dr. K.V. Rednam. Dr. Rednam has provided low cost and no cost eye care to economically challenged individuals in our community through the Outreach Center since approximately June of 2009.

5. Dr. Rednam visits the Outreach Center on Wednesdays and provides eye screenings. Wednesdays are the days when our food pantry is open. The food pantry serves approximately 250 people per month. During food pantry hours, Dr. Rednam makes himself available and offers eye exams.

6. I would estimate that Dr. Rednam has provided over 125 eye exams to children between 5 and 12 years of age at no cost. None of those children had probably ever had an eye

exam. Of the children that he has seen, I believe five of the children were diagnosed with an acute eye condition or ailment that required immediate attention.

7. Of the adults that he provides eye exams for, I would estimate that half of them have probably never had an eye examination before.

8. Dr. Rednam often makes appointments and sees patients at other times. If somebody wants to come in on a Saturday and he can get access to the clinic, he will drive over to the clinic from St. Louis to see them. He probably spends more than \$20.00 on the gas to get there.

9. Dr. Rednam is very thorough, very conscientious, very diligent, and very flexible. I have no problems with him. He works independently. He's dependable. He comes to the clinic in rain or in snow. He is there even when he doesn't have appointments to see anyone. The kids really like Dr. Rednam and he has a good way with them. Though we serve a diverse mix of cultures, he gets along with everyone.

10. His eye exams are very thorough. They last between an hour and an hour and a half. I find him to be an excellent doctor. I, myself, received an eye exam from him. He was very thorough.

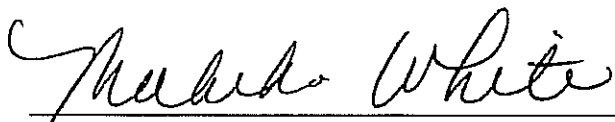
11. Dr. Rednam provides service at very low cost for those who are able to pay (approximately \$20.00). If the individuals are not able to pay, he provides the exam for free. He does not charge anything for examining the children. He certainly spends much more in providing the service than what he makes from the small amounts that he recovers through the \$20.00 charges. That amount probably does not cover his gas money and certainly does not cover his time, his equipment, and all the other costs he must incur to provide services.

12. Our Outreach Center serves an economically challenged area. Many of the individuals in the area do not have regular primary care physicians. More often than not, they wait until a crisis arises and then visit the emergency room for primary care. They may get a very large medical bill that they don't have the means to pay. One of the goals for our clinic is to provide primary services to these individuals earlier to improve their health and reduce their number of emergency room visits.

13. Most of the individuals receiving services through the Outreach Center would not have received any eye exams except for Dr. Rednam's willingness to volunteer. They do not have the resources to pay for a doctor who would charge a regular price. Even if they were willing and able to pay for a doctor, there are simply not enough doctors in the area. There is no eye doctor in Washington Park which has a population of 3,500 people. In East St. Louis, there is a population of 31,500 people and one or two eye doctors.

14. I have been very pleased with our partnership with Dr. Rednam. He has been great for the Outreach Center and the needy citizens who we serve. Without Dr. Rednam's willingness to volunteer his services to our community, many of the individuals who we serve would not be able to receive the eye services that he's making available to them at low or no cost. It is definitely in the interest of the public and our community for Dr. Rednam to be allowed to continue to practice medicine.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

  
MECHIKO WHITE

STATE OF ILLINOIS

COUNTY OF ST. CLAIR

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) ss.  
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On this 21<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2010 before me, a Notary Public, personally appeared Mechiko White known to me to be the person who executed the within Affidavit and stated that the foregoing is true and accurate to the best of his knowledge, information, and belief.

Becky Robertson  
Notary Public

My Commission expires on \_\_\_\_\_

