

September 12, 2024

Subject: Gaming Control Board to hold public hearing on License Renewal of Presque Isle Downs and Casino – September 25, 2024

## To whom it may concern:

The revenue from Presque Isle Downs and Casino is instrumental to the work of the Mercy Center for Women. A little history about the Mercy Center for Women. We are a shelter for women and children fleeing domestic abuse, homelessness, and addiction. Our shelter has been impacting lives for 30 years. Recently, we purchased a former school building adjacent to our campus- it is now called the Mercy Anchor Community Center. We are providing permanent housing to women, men, and children. Overall, serving over 100 families.

The licensure renewal of Presque Isle Downs and Casino is critical to our work. Through their generosity, The Mercy Center for Women and Mercy Anchor Community Center have been awarded over \$250,000.00 to place our homeless friends into safe and affordable housing. The Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority serves as a catalyst and partner to Presque Isle Downs and Casino. They award funding to many well-deserving non-profits in Erie County.

This letter of support is to share with you the importance this license renewal plays in Erie County. Many non-profits are stronger and serve county-wide community members through the gaming authority. The Mercy Center for Women receives 100 phone calls, emails, and knocks on our door in need of a place to rest. Women and children flooding our doors in hope for a better tomorrow. Imagine being cold and frightened living on the streets with no hope for tomorrow.

The Mercy Center for Women was provided the funding through the gaming authority to expand their current campus to double the number of individuals served. The importance of this license renewal is vital in saving lives, feeding mouths, and nourishing a future of opportunity.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter of support. The partnership shared with Presque Downs and Casino is necessary and appreciated. There will be many perspectives voicing support. Please be open and know there are lives saved through their community generosity.

Sincerely,

Jennie Hagerty Executive Director

Mercy Center for Women

August 19, 2024

To Whom it May Concern at the Pennsylvania Gaming Board:

This letter is in support of the license renewal for Presque Isle Downs.

Presque Isle Downs has been a community supporter since it's time of opening. There has always been a "giving back" approach to business operations. Many charities have held events and gatherings in different parts of the campus from the racetrack to the parking lot to the restaurant. PI Downs has been willing to host such events and help to bring about success. They support so many local raffles and basket auctions with restaurant gift cards. Additionally, they rotate charities monthly to benefit from a PI downs player incentive. Greater Erie Area Habitat for Humanity recently benefitted from such a player incentive.

PI Downs is not a passive community donor; they look for opportunities to create win-win-win situations for their customers, our charities and their business. This kind of approach seems to hit the mark beautifully.

Beyond that, at Greater Erie Area Habitat for Humanity, we have had the benefit of a member of PI upper management to volunteer to serve on one of our Habitat for Humanity committees. He brings his knowledge and willingness at the ready each time we call upon him. When your upper management level leadership gets in the trenches with a charity; it says a lot about that person but when that effort is supported by the CEO/owner; it shows that the company cares about the community in which it is doing business.

We support the renewal of the Presque Isle Downs license.

Sincerel

Nancy Milkowski

**Executive Director** 

## Pennsylvania H.B.P.A. Inc.

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September 20, 2024

PA Gaming Control Board 303 Walnut Street Commonwealth Tower 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Harrisburg, PA 17101

Re: Presque Isle Downs (PID) License Renewal

To Whom It May Concern,

The Pennsylvania Horsemen's Benevolent & Protective Association, sole representative of the Horsemen and women at Presque Isle Downs support the renewal of the PID gaming license.

Respectfully,

Tódd A. Mostoller

**Executive Director, PA HBPA Inc.**