

St. Joseph Medical Center

September 28, 2011

FOUNDATION

United State Tennis Association
Re: Set Point Tennis
P.O. Box 12231
Reading, PA 19612

Dear Colleagues:

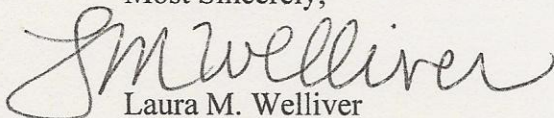
On behalf of St. Joseph Medical Center (SJMC) and the Reading Youth Violence Prevention Project (RYVP), I am pleased to provide this letter of support and collaboration for the efforts of the Set Point Tennis organization as they request grant assistance from USTA to enhance and expand their integrated approach to health promotion, crime prevention, and leadership development through the advancement of non-traditional youth tennis programming in Reading and Berks County.

Set Point Tennis President, Mike Murphy, has been an active participant in the recent RYVP Community Planning Process (as coordinated by SJMC) through which a draft "Blueprint for Action" to prevent and reduce youth violence in the City of Reading was developed. Reading has many unique challenges and opportunities, as a former "rustbelt" industrial now majority Latino city with a very high concentration urban youth population. Just this week, as reported in the New York Times, Reading earned the dubious distinction of the poorest city in the county. The level of need is indeed staggering, but this belies the great future potential of Reading's next generation and the many positive partnerships such as this currently underway.

SJMC applauds the innovation and resourcefulness of Set Point Tennis and looks forward to providing educational, clinical, nutritional, and/or other direct and in-kind assistance to the proposed effort and the many area children and families it will reach. We estimate a value added impact of \$5,000 - \$10,000 to match other local resources committed and any USTA grant monies secured.

Should you require or desire any additional information from or about our organization, please do not hesitate to contact me at 610-378-2474.

Most Sincerely,



Laura M. Welliver
RYVP Coordinator
Grants & Special Projects