



THE GETTY COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES  
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY, SOCIOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

March 3, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Keith F. Durkin. I hold a Ph.D. in Sociology from Virginia Tech. I am an active researcher with over 20 years of data analysis experience. I currently work as a Professor of Sociology and Director of the Institute for Social Research at Ohio Northern University. For the last four years, I have served as the Federal Site Evaluator for Hardin County's involvement in the Reclaiming Futures. I regularly perform the statistical analyses and produce quarterly reports for the county in that capacity.

I wish to pledge my support as a data analyst for evaluating a mentoring program provided by Big Brothers Big Sisters the students Hardin Community School. for this very important new initiative outlined in this grant application. It would be my pleasure to provide any type of statistical and methodological support the county will need in this venture. Because of our strong relationship with the Hardin County Juvenile Court, Ohio Northern University will be pleased to provide any additional resources (e.g., SPSS, additional faculty support, and student interns) that may be needed to successfully complete this project.

The most recent data from Reclaiming Futures project Global Appraisal of Individual Needs (GAIN) clearly demonstrates the urgent need for this type of program. More specifically

- 78% of students report a family history of substance abuse
- 70% report a family history of alcohol abuse
- 56% report a family history of drug abuse
- 50% currently reside in single-parent home
- 25% report experiencing family problems on a weekly basis

If I can be of any further assistance, feel free to contact me. I am

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Keith F. Durkin'.

Keith F. Durkin, Ph.D.  
Professor of Sociology