



# Akron Public Schools™

## Office of the Superintendent

March 10, 2015

Diane Jackson  
Cascade Community Development Inc.

Dear Ms. Jackson:

I am writing to inform you that after careful consideration, the District's senior leadership team has determined that your proposed Community Connectors partnership with APS is not a fit.

Due to the volume of requests for partnership – and late date of receipt for many of those requests – our team reviewed the goals and objectives of potential partner programs against Akron Public School district's own goals for its new *iCARE Mentoring* program (also being considered for funding under the Community Connectors opportunity). Our decisions were based on the following guidelines:

1. Proposed programming does not in any way duplicate the focuses and goals of the District's new *iCARE Mentoring* program;
2. Proposed programming does, however, fall under the scope of the *iCARE Mentoring* program, working within its bounds and three tiers of related student-focused mentoring services;
3. The organization has a full-time staff member to coordinate said programming with District;
4. The organization has appropriate administrative capacity to manage grant funds;
5. The organization understands it is not considered a founding/current partner or subcontractor named in the *iCARE Mentoring* program, and agrees to cover all expenses associated with proposed programming;
6. The organization clearly identifies its target population, which aligns with student populations served by the District, and specifies whether programming will be conducted in one-one or group settings;
7. The application clearly identifies where mentoring services will occur/be implemented, and mentoring locations meet all District parameters and regulations related to student safety; and
8. The program follows District guidelines related to mentor screening and all requirements for working safely with student populations.

The District is grateful for all past, present and future collaborations providing meaningful, positive outcomes and supports for our students, and I deeply appreciate your interest. Please do not hesitate to contact me for additional information.

Sincerely,

David W. James  
Superintendent of Schools

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