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Mission: Each student is highly educated, prepared for leadership and service, and empowered for success as a citizen in a global community.

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To Whom It May Concern:

I proudly write this letter of support for the OSU Chabad House LifeTown Community Connection Grant. I have worked closely with Rabbi Areyah and Esther Kaltmann on a professional level for the past year and a half, and their dedication is truly awe inspiring.

The purpose of life skills instruction is to prepare students to meet the demand of adult life and community living. The access to the general education provisions have had many positive benefits for students with disabilities, and have provided them with benefits that have typically only been available to their peers without disabilities.

Creating an inclusive environment where each student feels safe and supported in an engaging and appropriately challenging environment is rarely an easy accomplishment. Yet, the OSU Chabad House under the leadership of Esther and Rabbi Areyah, is doing just that!

Each year, 43 Columbus City School buildings, grades K-12, visit LifeTown. The program is utilized by 774 of our students with disabilities; 226 Special Education Teachers and Instructional Assistants attend each year. The uniqueness of the program comes from bringing children and youth together to learn life skills that help them become more independent and self-sufficient.

Our partnership is strong, and our Columbus City Schools' (CCS) teachers have given guidance and support to the OSU Chabad House initiative and energy. The impact of more than 600 committed volunteers to run this program and work with these children and youth is immeasurable.

Additions to the program for which funding is being sought will add 500 more children and youth from Columbus City Schools, grade 4-12, each with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP). New learning life modules will be added for these students, and each will have their own mentor as well as other volunteers who will work with them on special projects. Support for a family connection project will also be added to the program to support the learning of the student while they are at LifeTown.

I strongly support expanding the work of this program to allow many of the children of Columbus City Schools to gain self-worth and find their positive pathways in their lives. I hope you will give the OSU Chabad House LifeTown Community Connection Grant consideration.

Most Sincerely,

Dr. Dan Good
Superintendent/CEO