



**SUMMIT COUNTY
JUVENILE COURT**
JUDGE LINDA TUCCI TEODOSIO

Turning lives around one child at a time.

March 1, 2015

Community Connectors Program
Governor's Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives
77 South High Street, 30th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

To the Members of the Selection Committee:

Most of the young men and women who pass through my courtroom are considered "at risk" for future legal difficulties unless intervention occurs. The organizations who make up iCARE believe—and I agree—that the young people most at risk are not the ones whose actions bring them to the attention of the authorities. Instead, it's those who lose faith in themselves for lack of just a small amount of adult encouragement or friendship or assistance with schoolwork.

The iCARE program is aimed at exactly the age group that needs the most reassurance about their abilities and future promise. Positive attention from responsible adults is likely to be a key factor in these boys' and girls' success. I congratulate the group on planning what sounds to be an effective and replicable program and urge your committee to seriously consider funding its proposal.

Very Truly Yours,



Linda Tucci Teodosio