



March 4, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter of support for College Mentors for Kids (CMFK) by The Ohio State University chapter. As the chapter liaison, I have observed our university mentors develop leadership, character, and maturity as a result of managing the second largest chapter in the country and through their service to local elementary school children.

CMFK at The Ohio State University works with elementary school aged students from first through fourth grades. Mentees are from a high-need communities in challenged socio-economic environments. CMFK programming creates authentic and caring relationships between university students and mentees.

For elementary school buddies, spending two hours a week with their mentor on a university campus is a transformative experience. Many of our 200 mentees would not have exposure to this diversity of positive and educational experiences outside the classroom if not for College Mentors for Kids.

This student-run organization conducts planning of all activities including recruiting and interviewing members, transportation of elementary school students to the university, programming for 200 youth from four schools, solicitation of in kind donations, and on-going fund raising campaigns to support their chapter.

Like many other university affiliates of College Mentors for Kids, Ohio State students joined to 'get involved' but stayed because they enjoyed giving back and the sense of fulfillment it gives them. Some of our students have even incorporated their activity with College Mentors for Kids into their academic curriculum because they are so passionate about the program.

The College Mentors for Kids at The Ohio State University supports this application to facilitate the expansion of chapters to other universities and for our university chapter to expand its reach to serve fifth graders.

Sincerely,

Kathleen T. Harkin
Director | P-12 Initiative