



WeAreBuilding.

March 3, 2015

Richard Ross, State Superintendent
Ohio Department of Education
25 South Front Street
Columbus, Ohio
43215-4183
Re: Community Connector Grant

Dear Mr. Ross:

Messer Construction is pleased to offer its support of the proposal for the Ohio Governor's Office and Department of Education's *Community Connector Grant Program Announcement* being submitted by Easter Seals Tri-State (ESTS) and her community partners. ESTS plans to collaborate with the Messer Construction, Turner Construction, Buckeye United School District and Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities. This project will be creating an infrastructure of opportunity that will seek to break the cycle of generational workforce and educational immobility through the submission and implementation of the *Coaching 4 Life (CAL)* three year mentoring program. ESTS has a long standing history of providing development opportunities for children and youth adults including mentoring and after school programs.

As a partner in this proposal, Messer Construction will provide outreach to employees to identify youth mentors in their communities. These mentors will receive training and support from ESTS and her partners and will work towards the goal of a life changing impact through a year of mentorship.

It is our belief that the ESTS is qualified to provide these services to individuals returning to and residing within Hamilton, Butler, Franklin, and Clermont counties. They recognize the important role that community engagement plays in the future of youth residing in these service areas. By supporting these youth and investing in them now will reap the dividends necessary to sustain and secure our economic future and well-being. ESTS has a proven history of effectively serving this generation of children and therefore, I would strongly endorse funding their proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nick G. Rosian".

Messer Construction Co.

Nick G. Rosian
Operations Vice President

Cc. File, Stan Williams



**United Way of Oxford, Ohio
and Vicinity**

March 3, 2015

Easter Seals Tri State
4631 Dixie Highway (Route 4)
Fairfield, OH 45014

To Whom It May Concern:

I write this letter today, in support of the Easter Seals Tri State organization's attempt to secure a Community Connector's grant for the "Coaching for Life (C4L)" program. The willingness of the organization to reach out to each community it proposes to serve, and its follow through and involvement within those communities, makes them an ideal co-applicant for these funds.

I have had the pleasure of working with Corey Watt, Butler County Youth Services Manager, on a number of committees in the Oxford community, including the Needs Awareness Committee and the Homeless Alliance of Oxford. Corey brings to each meeting a unique and relevant perspective that may otherwise be overlooked by a community where Baby Boomers and senior citizens disproportionately outnumber every other age demographic.

Easter Seals Tri State's involvement in Oxford and throughout Butler County is a breath of fresh air. Oxford is often a forgotten member of the Butler County social services community, leaving its youth without access to the valuable programs provided by Easter Seals and other organizations. Since Corey's appointment to this position, he has worked diligently on behalf of Easter Seals Tri State to help youth, increase awareness and participation in the Talawanda School District and work with people and organizations to make a positive impact in the lives of youth in Butler County.

I would be happy to address any questions or elaborate on any of the positions stated in this letter. Please feel free to call (513.523.0991) or email (director@uwoxford.org) any time. Thank you for your consideration of this letter in the Easter Seals Tri State's application for funding.

Kindest regards,

Brian Revalee, MSW, MPSA
Executive Director



Fairfield City Schools

4641 Bach Lane • Fairfield, Ohio 45014

SPECIAL SERVICES

Phone (513) 829-4311

Fax (513) 829-7196

Richard Ross, State Superintendent
Ohio Department of Education
25 South Front Street
Columbus, Ohio
43215-4183

Re: Community Connector Grant

Dear Mr. Ross:

The Fairfield City School District is pleased to offer its support of the proposal for the Ohio Governor's Office and Department of Education's *Community Connector Grant Program Announcement* being submitted by Easter Seals Tri-State (ESTS) and her community partners. ESTS plans to collaborate with the Turner Construction, Messer Construction, Buckeye United School District and Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities. This project will be creating an infrastructure of opportunity that will seek to break the cycle of generational workforce and educational immobility through the submission and implementation of the *Coaching 4 Life (C4L)* three year mentoring program. ESTS has a long standing history of providing development opportunities for children and youth adults including mentoring and after school programs.

Some examples of how ESTS has supported the students, families, and community of Fairfield City Schools include working with students at our alternative school to link them up with available resources; provision of training, internships, and Youth Summer Employment to several of our high school students; involvement in community organizations such as the Fairfield Chamber, Fairfield Connections Group, and the Cross Systems Training Committee; and continued planning efforts to bring the Asset Builders' Little Free Library program to Fairfield.

It is our belief that the ESTS is qualified to provide these services to individuals returning to and residing within Hamilton, Butler, Franklin, and Clermont counties. They recognize the important role that community engagement plays in the future of youth residing in these service areas. By supporting these youth and investing in them now will reap the dividends necessary to sustain and secure our economic future and well-being. ESTS has a proven history of effectively serving this generation of children and therefore, I would strongly endorse funding their proposal.

Michael Albrecht
Special Services Supervisor
Fairfield City School District





SUPPORTS TO ENCOURAGE LOW-INCOME FAMILIES

March 3, 2015

P.O. Box 1322
Hamilton, OH 45012

Phone
(513) 868-9300

Fax
(513) 737-3889

Website
www.selfhelps.org

Mr. Richard Ross, State Superintendent
Ohio Department of Education
25 South Front Street
Columbus, Ohio
43215-4183

Re: Community Connector Grant

Dear Superintendent. Ross:

Offices also in:
Middletown
West Chester
Oxford

Supports to Encourage Low-income Families (SELF), Butler County's state-designated Community Action Agency, is pleased to offer its support of the proposal for the Ohio Governor's Office and Department of Education's *Community Connector Grant Program Announcement* being submitted by Easter Seals Tri-State (ESTS) and its community partners

Jeffrey A. Diver
Executive Director

I understand that ESTS plans to collaborate with the Turner Construction, Messer Construction, Buckeye United School District and the Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities. If funded, this project will be creating an infrastructure of opportunity that will seek to break the cycle of generational workforce and educational immobility through the submission and implementation of the *Coaching 4 Life (C4L)* three-year mentoring program. ESTS has a long standing history of providing development opportunities for children and youth adults including mentoring and after school programs.

It is our belief that the ESTS is qualified to provide these services to individuals returning to and residing within Hamilton, Butler, Franklin, and Clermont counties. They recognize the important role that community engagement plays in the future of youth residing in these service areas. By supporting these youth and investing in them now will reap the dividends necessary to sustain and secure our economic future and well-being. Therefore, I would strongly endorse funding their proposal.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey A. Diver
Executive Director



Richard Ross, State Superintendent
Ohio Department of Education
25 South Front Street
Columbus, Ohio
43215-4183

Re: Community Connector Grant

Dear Mr. Ross:

The Juvenile Justice Coalition (JJC) would like to offer our support of the application submitted to the Community Connector Grant program by Easter Seals Tri-State (ESTS) and its partners.

By concentrating on providing services to youth who have been in DYS facilities, ESTS's application would help positively support some of Ohio's most vulnerable youth as they transition back into their communities. These positive supports are much needed as many youth exiting DYS facilities face barriers upon their return home, including difficulty accessing education and a lack or disruption of positive community connections. Research has shown that mentoring can be especially effective for youth reentering their communities from locked facilities. Successful mentoring programs can contribute to reductions in substance use, lower recidivism, and increased referrals to education, employment, and mental health services. The three year Coaching 4 Life mentoring program could help youth returning from DYS facilities access a stable, caring adult to help guide the youth through their transition home in the short-term, as well as help put youth on a path to be positive, productive members of their community in the long-term.

We applaud ESTS and its partners for submitting this application to help some of Ohio's most vulnerable youth and fully support their grant application under the Community Connector Grant program. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me through the information below.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Erin Davies", written over a horizontal line.

Erin Davies
Executive Director
Juvenile Justice Coalition
edavies@jjohio.org
614-400-5548



From the desk of

Cathy Ruiz,

Parent Mentor

Service Coordinator, Family & Children First Council

President, Executive Board, OCECD

Western Buckeye, ESC, Paulding County

February 24, 2015

Richard Ross, State Superintendent
Ohio Department of Education
25 South Front Street
Columbus, OH 43215-4183

RE: COMMUNITY CONNECTOR GRANT

Dear Mr. Ross,

As a Parent Mentor with the Parent Mentors of Ohio Program, representing the Parent Mentors of Northwest Ohio Regional Council serving as President on the Executive Board of the Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities (OCECD) we are pleased to offer our support of the proposal of the Ohio Governor's Office and Department of Education's *Community Connector Grant Program Announcement* being submitted by Easter Seals Tri-State (ESTS) and her community partners. ESTS plans to collaborate with the Turner Construction, Messer Construction, Buckeye United School District and Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities. This project will be creating an infrastructure of opportunity that will seek to break the cycle of generational workforce and educational immobility through the submission and implementation of the Coaching 4 Life (C4L) three year mentoring program. ESTS has a long standing history of providing development opportunities for children and youth adults including mentoring and after school programs.

It is our belief that the ESTS is qualified to provide these services to individuals returning to and residing within Hamilton, Butler, Franklin, and Clermont counties. They recognize the important role that community engagement plays in the future of youth residing in these service areas. By supporting these youth and investing in them now will reap the dividends necessary to sustain and secure our economic future and well-being.

As a parent, both of my sons have special needs; one of which has a multitude of behavior/mental health related disabilities and diagnoses. I have witnessed first-hand, both professionally and personally, how important (and life changing) interventions can be providing those methods of assistance and support for that youth's level of need. ESTS has a proven history of effectively serving this generation of children and therefore, as President of the OCECD Executive Board, I would strongly endorse funding their proposal.

Sincerely,


Cathy J. Ruiz, President, Executive Board, OCECD



Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Helping people to live, learn and work in our community

2879 Johnstown Road • Columbus, Ohio 43219 • 614-475-6440 • www.fcbdd.org

Jed W. Morison
Superintendent/CEO

Richard Ross, State Superintendent
Ohio Department of Education
25 South Front Street
Columbus, Ohio
43215-4183

Re: Community Connector Grant

Dear Mr. Ross:

I am pleased to offer support of the proposal for the Ohio Governor's Office and Department of Education's *Community Connector Grant Program Announcement* being submitted by Easter Seals Tri-State (ESTS) and their community partners.

ESTS plans to collaborate with the Turner Construction, Messer Construction, Buckeye United School District and Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities. This project will be creating an infrastructure of opportunity that will seek to break the cycle of generational workforce and educational immobility through the submission and implementation of the *Coaching 4 Life (C4L)* three year mentoring program.

This grant will provide important support to individuals returning to and residing within Hamilton, Butler, Franklin, and Clermont counties and it recognizes the important role that community engagement plays in the future of youth residing in these service areas. By supporting these youth and investing in them now we will reap the dividends necessary to sustain and secure our economic future and well-being. I would strongly endorse funding this proposal and encourage your approval.

Sincerely,



Jed Morison
Superintendent/CEO

VORYS

Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP
Legal Counsel

52 East Gay Street
P.O. Box 1008
Columbus, Ohio 43216-1008

614.464.6400 | www.vorys.com

Founded 1909

Evelyn Lundberg Stratton
Direct Dial (614) 464-8210
Direct Fax (614) 719-5211
Email elstratton@vorys.com

February 23, 2015

VIA US MAIL

Richard Ross
State Superintendent
Ohio Department of Education
25 South Front Street
Columbus, OH 43215-4183

Re: Community Connector Grant

Dear Mr. Ross:

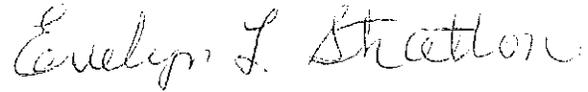
I am pleased to offer support of the proposal for the Ohio Governor's Office and Department of Education's *Community Connector Grant Program Announcement* being submitted by Easter Seals Tri-State (ESTS) and her community partners. As a retired Justice from the Ohio Supreme Court, I have worked for many years on juvenile justice reforms. Also, as a trial judge, I saw the broken spirits when kids came from a life of poverty and crime and graduated to the adult prison system. We have to break this cycle and give these kids hope. This program does just that.

ESTS has a long standing history of providing development opportunities for children and youth adults including mentoring and after school programs. ESTS plans to collaborate with the Turner Construction, Messer Construction, Buckeye United School District and Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities to make a difference. This project will break the cycle of generational workforce and educational immobility through the *Coaching 4 Life (C4L)* three year mentoring program.

I believe ESTS is qualified to provide these services to kids in Hamilton, Butler, Franklin, and Clermont counties. They know that the community must support their youth by investing in them now, thus preparing them for a future working, contributing, and becoming productive community members. ESTS has a proven history of effectively serving this generation of children and therefore, I would strongly endorse funding their proposal.

Richard Ross
February 23, 2015
Page 2

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Evelyn L. Stratton".

Evelyn Lundberg Stratton

ES/crm

Richard Ross, State Superintendent
Ohio Department of Education
25 South Front Street
Columbus, Ohio
43215-4183

Re: Community Connector Grant

Dear Mr. Ross:

The Juvenile Justice Coalition (JJC) would like to offer our support of the application submitted to the Community Connector Grant program by Easter Seals Tri-State (ESTS) and its partners.

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We applaud ESTS and its partners for submitting this application to help some of Ohio's most vulnerable youth and fully support their grant application under the Community Connector Grant program. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me through the information below.

Sincerely,

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Erin Davies
Executive Director
Juvenile Justice Coalition
edavies@jjohio.org
614-400-5548