

March 3, 2015

Dear Community Connectors Review Panel:

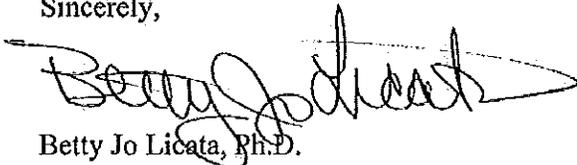
I am pleased to provide a letter of support for Junior Achievement of Mahoning Valley's Community Connectors proposal. Junior Achievement is a critical program in the Mahoning Valley that offers real opportunities for businesses to teach work readiness, financial literacy and entrepreneurship to students in grades K-12. As you know, achievement in life takes tools that may not be found in the classroom. JA gives young people those tools through a unique interactive curriculum, brought to life by the "real world" experience of our volunteer mentors. The result is vital, productive, and engaged children.

I am proud to say that our students and faculty in the Youngstown State University Williamson College of Business Administration are ongoing partners with Junior Achievement. Our students are involved in delivering Junior Achievement programs and "JA in a Day" has become an annual event for several of our professional student organizations. We look forward to expanding our partnership with JAMV and increasing the number of students with whom we interact.

I have been a Junior Achievement volunteer for many years and am gratified that some of my former JA students are now business majors at a variety of universities. Being in the K-12 classroom provides a valuable opportunity to serve our community and for our college students to serve as role models to the younger students.

Junior Achievement of Mahoning Valley is positioned to expand its impact on the young people of our area, and board members, business leaders, and our university community stand ready to contribute to the preparation of children in grades K-12.

Sincerely,



Betty Jo Licata, Ph.D.
Dean



KENT STATE UNIVERSITY
TRUMBULL CAMPUS
4314 Mahoning Ave., N.W.
Warren, Ohio 44483

March 5, 2015

RE: Statement of Support

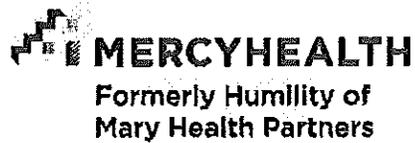
As coordinator of business programs at Kent State University at Trumbull we support Junior Achievement of the Mahoning Valley (JAMV) as JAMV applies for the Community Connections Grant.

The business program at Kent State University at Trumbull has continuously worked closely with JAMV as they fulfill their mission of K-12 business education. As coordinator I encourage our business instructor to also support JAMV. We encourage our students to be classroom volunteers who present Junior Achievement lessons.

I also serve as a member of JAMV's Board of Directors. The business program at Kent State University at Trumbull shares the same educational vision as JAMV, is a participant in goal setting, identifies area for improvement and operates in accordance with all state and federal laws.

If further amplification on any of the above items is required please feel free to contact me.

John A. Marino
Associate Professor
Business Program Coordinator
Kent State University at Trumbull
JMarino@kent.edu
330-675-8988



March 3, 2015

Michele Merkel
President

Junior Achievement of Mahoning Valley

1601 Motor Inn Drive, #305
Girard, OH 44420

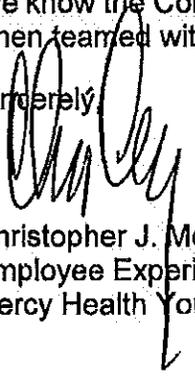
Dear Michele:

On behalf of Mercy Health, it is my pleasure to submit this letter of support Junior Achievement of the Mahoning Valley's "Community Connectors" proposal.

Junior Achievement has offered real opportunities for businesses to teach work readiness, financial literacy and entrepreneurship education to students in grades K-12 for many years. As we all know, achievement in life takes tools that may not be found in the regular classroom. JA gives young people those tools through unique interactive curriculum, brought to life by the real world experience of volunteer mentors. The results are impressive and the JA experience is so valuable for every student.

We know the Community Connectors program will be a guaranteed success when teamed with JA.

Sincerely,



Christopher J. McCarty
Employee Experience and Government Liaison
Mercy Health Youngstown



March 4, 2015

Ohio Department of Education
Attn: Richard Ross, Superintendent
Community Connectors Grant Application
25 S. Front Street
Columbus, OH 43215

Re: Letter of Support – Junior Achievement of Mahoning Valley

Dear Superintendent Ross:

I am writing to you in support of Junior Achievement of Mahoning Valley's Community Connector's proposal. As a volunteer for this organization, I have seen firsthand the unparalleled learning experience these programs offer to students in grades K-12.

First, the interactive qualities of the curriculum engage every participant while teaching them the entrepreneurial and financial literacy skills needed for success in the 21st –century marketplace. JA offers a variety of true-to-life programs to teach students about budgeting, choosing a career, running a business, etc. These are lessons that are not typically covered in-depth in the classroom.

Further, JA volunteers are successful local leaders and entrepreneurs who bring their valuable knowledge and experience to the classroom for the benefit of our future workforce. During the 2013-2014 school year, more than 450 volunteers shared their expertise with 10,486 students in 466 classrooms in the Mahoning Valley. This widespread program has connected students with local leaders, thereby inspiring our youth to visualize and pursue a rewarding future.

For these reasons, I am confident in the effectiveness of these programs and ask that you consider this proposal.

Thank you,

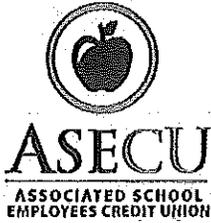
Chris Jaskiewicz
President/COO
VEC, Inc.
330-539-4044 X 1128
ChrisJ@vecohio.com

VEC Companies

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Commercial
Service*

*Evets Oil & Gas
Construction
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Civil
Mechanical
Electrical
Fabrication*

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Voltage Solutions
Video Systems
Security & CCTV
Sound Systems
Computer Networks*



March 5,, 2015

Ohio Department of Education
Attn: Richard Ross, Superintendent
Community Connectors Grant Application
25 S. Front Street
Columbus, OH 43215

RE: Letter of Support – Junior Achievement of Mahoning Valley

Dear Superintendent Ross:

I am writing in support of Junior Achievement of Mahoning Valley's
Community Connector Grant Application.

Over the last several years I have served as a volunteer to this organization. During this time I have both observed and participated in their classroom programs. These programs have covered valuable topics for students at all grade levels and covered topics such as financial literacy, entrepreneurship and work readiness. Students are able to gain a better understanding of these topics by hearing from successful leaders who bring firsthand knowledge into the classroom.

For the last seven years Associated School Employees Credit Union has partnered with Junior Achievement of Mahoning Valley with an initiative called Financial Starting Points. Each year this program, with the help of JA, teaches over 400 high school students from over 15 different school districts financial life skills to deal with real world scenarios. The life skills taught include Budgeting, Investments, Credit and decision making.

Policy makers in Ohio understand the value that students educated in these areas bring to themselves and our communities. Junior Achievement of Mahoning Valley has the experience and history to perform the tasks of the Community Connector Grant.

Please join me in supporting their request.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Kurish, CEO/President
Associated School Employees Credit Union

Austintown
1690 S. Canfield-Niles Rd.
Austintown, Oh 44515
330-792-4000
330-792-4909 fax

Boardman
85 Marwood Circle
Boardman, Oh 44512
330-792-4000
330-758-8991 fax

Lordstown
2255 Salt Springs Road
Warren, Oh 44481
330-824-2542
330-824-2544 fax

Newton Falls
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330-872-5801
330-872-5340 fax

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University
One University Plaza
Youngstown, Oh 44555
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330-941-1498 fax

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March 3, 2015

Ohio Department of Education
Attn: Richard Ross, Superintendent
Community Connectors Grant Application
25 S. Front Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Re: Letter of Support – Junior Achievement of Mahoning Valley

Dear Superintendent Ross:

As a member of the business community, I am writing to express support for Junior Achievement of Mahoning Valley's Community Connector's proposal. I personally mentor young people in our community through the Junior Achievement program in the past and have also encouraged employees in my office to volunteer in the classroom through the variety of programs offered by Junior Achievement Mahoning Valley.

Junior Achievement offers real opportunities for businesses to teach work readiness, financial literacy and entrepreneurship education to students in grades K-12. As you know, achievement in life takes tools that may not be found in the classroom. Junior Achievement gives young people those tools through unique interactive curriculum, brought to life by the real world experience of our volunteer mentors. The result is vital, productive, and engaged kids. These programs provide invaluable experience to students in providing them with real world simulations that employers are looking for in the work force.

Junior Achievement provides an exciting opportunity for our young people. I am asking for your consideration of this project and am confident in its success.

Sincerely,

Margaret S. Adams, Esq.
Vice President & Trust Officer



March 3, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

As a member of the business community, I am writing to express support for Junior Achievement of Mahoning Valley's Community Connector's proposal.

Personally, I mentor young people in our community through the Junior Achievement program and encourage volunteer opportunities to my fellow employees. PNC has a long standing relationship with Junior Achievement in the Mahoning Valley with our employees teaching over 70 individual programs during the past four years.

Junior Achievement offers real opportunities for businesses to teach work readiness, financial literacy and entrepreneurship education to students in grades K-12. As you know, achievement in life takes tools that may not be found in the classroom. JA gives young people those tools through unique interactive curriculum, brought to life by the real world experience of our volunteer mentors. The result is vital, productive, and engaged kids.

Junior Achievement provides an exciting opportunity for our young people. I am asking for your consideration of this project and am confident in its success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Pastore".

Ryan Pastore
Vice President, Client and Community Relations
PNC Bank

The PNC Financial Services Group

City Centre One 100 East Federal Street P4-P401-07-1 Youngstown Ohio 44503

www.pnc.com

SEVEN SEVENTEEN
credit union

March 3, 2015

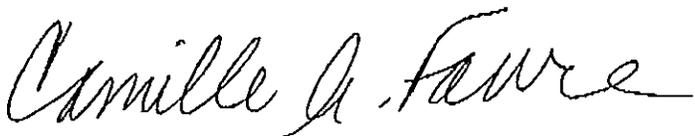
As a member of the business community, I am writing to express support for Junior Achievement of Mahoning Valley's Community Connector's proposal.

Over the past six years, I personally have taught numerous financial literacy classes in area high schools, and mentored young people in our community through the Junior Achievement program Be Entrepreneurial.

Junior Achievement offers real opportunities for businesses to teach work readiness, financial literacy and entrepreneurship education to students in grades K-12. As you know, achievement in life takes tools that may not be found in the classroom. JA gives young people those tools through unique interactive curriculum, brought to life by the real world experience of our volunteer mentors. The result is vital, productive, and engaged kids.

Junior Achievement provides an exciting opportunity for our young people. I am asking for your consideration of this project and am confident in its success.

Sincerely,



Camille A. Favre
Senior Vice President
Human Resources

1975 Celestial Drive NE
Warren, OH 44484
March 4, 2015

Mr. Richard Ross
Superintendent
Ohio Department of Education
25 S. Front Street
Columbus, OH 43215

RE: Community Connectors Grant Applications – Junior Achievement of Mahoning Valley

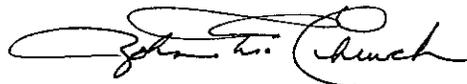
Dear Mr. Ross:

I am writing to express my support for the subject grant proposals being submitted by Junior Achievement of Mahoning Valley. As a 25+ year professional in financial services and small business consulting, I have seen first-hand the consequences of not preparing our youth for work readiness or teaching financial literacy.

Through its unique interactive curriculum, delivered by business and community volunteers, Junior Achievement has provided the educational platform – not found elsewhere – to instill these critical life and business skills. The consistent and measureable results Junior Achievement has produced has made me an advocate, volunteer, and long-time board member.

Success in life takes tools that may not necessarily be found in the classroom alone. Junior Achievement gives young people those tools with the real world experience of our volunteer mentors. Mr. Ross, I sincerely ask for approval of the referenced grant requests, so more young people can benefit from this invaluable experience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John F. Church". The signature is fluid and includes a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

John F. Church

03/05/2015

To whom it may concern.

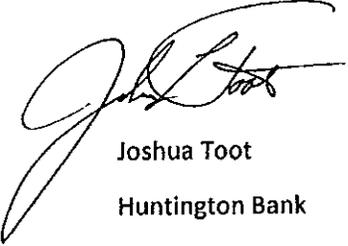
As a member of the Mahoning Valley business community I would like to express my support for Junior Achievement Mahoning Valley's Community Connector's proposal.

I personally enjoy mentoring the young people of our community through the programs that Junior Achievement offers and I encourage my employees to do the same.

Junior Achievement gives me and my organization the opportunity to educate the kids in areas like financial literacy and entrepreneurship.

Through Junior Achievement our young people have the ability to learn about important aspects of business and finance from our local business leaders which teaches the kids work readiness. I am asking for your consideration of this project and I am confident it will be a success.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joshua Toot', with a large, sweeping flourish extending from the end of the signature.

Joshua Toot

Huntington Bank