

Memorandum of Understanding, October 21, 2013

WHEREAS, Lighthouse Community School and Cincinnati Public Schools (CPS) have come together as partners and in an application to the Ohio Department of Education through The Straight A Fund; and

WHEREAS, the partners listed below have agreed to enter into a collaborative agreement in which Lighthouse Community School will be the lead agency and named applicant and the other agencies will be partners in this application; and

WHEREAS, Cincinnati Public Schools is a stakeholder in providing a system of services to the target groups and their associated activities, it is desirable to enter into this Memorandum of Understanding setting forth the services to be provided by the partnership; and

WHEREAS, the application prepared and approved by the partners is to be submitted to the Ohio Department of Education on or before October 25, 2013; and

WHEREAS, Cincinnati Public Schools is the largest school district in Hamilton County and the school district in which the vast majority of children in the Hamilton County attend school, we commit ourselves to the overall goals and activities of this partnership and initiative.

I) DESCRIPTION OF PARTNER AGENCIES

Cincinnati Public Schools (CPS) serves 33,000 students in 55 schools spread across a 91-square-mile district in southwest Ohio. It is Greater Cincinnati's largest school district and Ohio's third largest. Cincinnati Public Schools ranks among the top 2 percent of Ohio districts for students' learning growth and offers families high-quality school choices and academic programs. It operates Project Connect specifically for children and youth who are affected by homelessness.

II) HISTORY OF RELATIONSHIP

Cincinnati Public Schools has maintained a long-term and effective working relationship with the Lighthouse Community School and Lighthouse Youth Services. Cincinnati Public Schools, the Lighthouse Community School and Lighthouse Youth Services, have engaged in numerous activities to improve the education outcomes of children in Hamilton County and particularly those in the Child Welfare System. In the year 2000, Cincinnati Public Schools entered into an agreement as the sponsor and as a partial funder for the Lighthouse Community School, a school developed by Lighthouse Youth Services to specifically serve young people in the Child Welfare System and young people within Cincinnati Public Schools who can benefit from the type of therapeutic, small classroom approach offered through the Lighthouse Community School.

The Cincinnati Public Schools also supports Project Connect, a program funded under the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act, within the Cincinnati Public Schools that works specifically on behalf of children who are homeless and children who are engaged in the Child Welfare System. Project Connect has a direct relationship with Lighthouse Youth Services, including office space at the Lighthouse Youth Crisis Center, our community's only shelter care program for runaway and homeless youth.

Lighthouse Youth Services is also a certified mental health provider and is our mental health partner for one of our largest high schools in our district, Western Hills University High

School. Lighthouse social workers have done an outstanding job working with the students and families who need the kind of support Lighthouse can provide.

Through this Memorandum of Understanding, we demonstrate clearly the level of commitment and engagement we will provide to this effort.

III) DEVELOPMENT OF APPLICATION

Lighthouse Community School is the applicant and primary author, with the participation of Cincinnati Public Schools as needed in the input to and review of the entire application, and agreement between the parties of the necessity of drawing the resources of the two together to effectively address the needs of the target population and support community involvement and partnership in the proposed project.

IV) ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby agreed by and between the partners as follows:

- Lighthouse Community School will act as applicant and fiscal agent, supported by Superintendent and Principal:
- Cincinnati Public Schools (CPS) will participate in every aspect of the advocacy, planning, development and implementation of the Straight A Fund Management Plan and help to coordinate activities.
- Cincinnati Public Schools (CPS) also provides the following assurances: It will:
 - Be knowledgeable about the applicant's Straight A Fund grant proposal and application, including advocacy of the Straight A Fund program.
 - Maintain familiarity with the partner's services to enhance the proposal, including specific goals and practices.
 - Demonstrate a commitment to clear roles and responsibilities of each partner as it relates to the grant proposal and application.
 - Sustain consistent communication among partners and stakeholders with a shared vision of the goals of the grant proposal. This includes participating in regularly scheduled meetings for project management and identifying areas for improvement.
 - Ensure partners have appropriate access to data for purposes of grant program improvement and evaluation in accordance with state and federal law.
 - Develop a clear project management plan to sustain the project over time.

By signature below, both organizations demonstrate their commitment to the roles and responsibilities of each partner and will work together to achieve the stated project goals and to assist in developing and implementing a self-sustainability plan that sustains funding once grant funds are no longer available.

V) TIMELINE

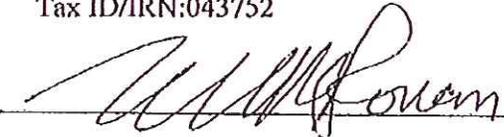
The roles and responsibilities described above are contingent upon receipt of funds requested for the project described in the final grant application. Responsibilities under this Memorandum of Understanding would coincide with the grant period, anticipated to be December 18, 2013 through June 30, 2014, or the actual dates set by the grant agreement with the Ohio Department of Education.

VI) COMMITMENT TO PARTNERSHIP

- 1) The collaboration service area is Hamilton County, Ohio and the City of Cincinnati, Ohio.
- 2) We, the undersigned have read and agree with this MOU. Further, we have reviewed the proposed project and approve it.

This Memorandum of Understanding is completed and agreed on October 21, 2013, as witnessed by the signatures below:

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Date: 10/24/13

Daniel Trujillo, Superintendent
Lighthouse Community School
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Telephone:
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Date: 10.24.13