



October 24, 2013

Ms. Pamela Duckett
The Academy for Urban Scholars
1808 E. Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43203

Dear Ms. Duckett,

I am writing in support of the The Academy for Urban Scholars (AUS) application to the Straight-A-Fund grant. The National Center for Urban Solutions (NCUS) has served the urban community for nearly 20 years, moving individuals mired in the negative impacts of urban poverty to socioeconomic self-sufficiency by equipping them to liberate themselves from all forms of institutional dependence. By providing asset oriented, culturally informed training programs that target specific industry needs, we have been able to train thousands of urban youth and adults, equipping them to overcome the negative impacts emanating from blighted low income urban communities. NCUS is pleased to partner with The Academy for Urban Scholars as part of a comprehensive network of educational service providers who have committed to providing innovative solutions to improve education for our youth.

Working closely with AUS, NCUS commits to providing educational consulting services to The Academy for Urban Scholars Close to Home project:

- A. Professional Development
- B. Life Coaching
- C. Life Skills Classes
- D. Recruiting/Retention Services

The National Center for Urban Solutions is pleased to commit the above services for the AUS Close to Home project.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 614-754-7511 or viester@ncusolutions.org if I can be of further assistance. Good luck with your grant application!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vanessa P. Jester', written over a large, loopy flourish.

Vanessa P. Jester

Senior Vice President

October 24, 2013

Ms. Pamela Duckett
The Academy for Urban Scholars
1808 E. Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43203

Dear Ms. Duckett,

Family Missionary Baptist Church has been providing supportive services to our community for over 57 years! I am writing in support of your innovative AUS Close to Home project to make it a seamless effort for our youth to get a high school diploma. The youth living in our community face barriers daily preventing them from obtaining the education they need to lead a self-sufficient life. Adding our location as a Learning Center for the AUS Close to Home Education Centers would allow our youth in the neighborhood access to educational tools such as computers; direct instruction and life coaching within walking distance of their homes!

Family Missionary Baptist Church is pleased to be a site partner for The AUS Close to Home Education Center. We look forward to adding this resource to the community that we serve. If you need any additional information, please do not hesitate to give me a call at 614-252-7488.

Sincerely,

Pastor Fredrick Lamarr

Family Missionary Baptist Church

October 24, 2013

Ms. Pamela Duckett
The Academy for Urban Scholars
1808 E. Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43203

Ms. Duckett,

I am writing in support of the The Academy for Urban Scholars (AUS) application to the Straight-A-Fund grant. The Columbus Urban League is a community-based, non-profit committed to empowering communities and changing lives. Founded in 1918, the CUL is an affiliate of the National Urban League and are ranked 7th in the 98-affiliate network of the Urban League movement nationally. We strive to formulate collaborations that are innovative and seeking to close the gap for the urban community that we serve.

The Academy for Urban Scholars Close to Home Education Centers, would serve as safe environment for the youth in our community to obtain their high school diploma. The Columbus Urban League is pleased to be one of the sites for The Academy for Urban Scholars project.

We look forward to being a strategic partner for this innovative project. If you need any additional information, please do not hesitate to give me a call at 614-257-6300.

Sincerely,

Toni Cunningham

Director