CHESTER ADDISON COMMUNITY CENTER 245 SELLECK STREET STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT 06902



February 28, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

The Domus-Chester Addison Community Center is a central hub of activity for hundreds of families in Stamford's Waterside neighborhood. During the summer months we expand our afterschool program to a full nine (9) hour day-long summer enrichment and recreation camp for 170 youth.

Our objectives during the summer are to keep youth safe, stem the academic summer slide that allows the achievement gap to grow, provide vigorous outdoor activities, and to provide two nutritious meals (breakfast and lunch) per day to our campers. We provide these services knowing that many of the families we serve live in poverty, or very near it financially, and stretch mightily to meet the bare necessities of life. Over 90% of the youth in our afterschool and summer program qualify for free or reduced lunch in our schools. Over the past year the local United Way has documented the extent to which "food insecurity" exists in our community.

It is within this environment and context that we are extremely pleased to partner with Filling in the Blanks to meet an important need of supplying food to young people during the summer weekends when our own program cannot meet that need. These nutritious and healthy alternatives provided by Filling in the Blanks are enjoyed by our campers and thankfully, are a wise replacement from the often heavily sugared foods that they have typically relied upon during the weekend.

Filling in the Blanks meets a real and practical need for our youth, and we cannot be more grateful for their unwavering commitment. We commend them to you as indeed worthy of your interest and support.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Hyman

Director

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