



10/30/2023

To Whom It May Concern,

I am delighted to provide a letter of recommendation on behalf of Farrah Salawdeh for his admittance into the Master in Teaching program at Evergreen State College. As the recent former Summer Camp Director at YMCA Camp Minikani, I have gotten the opportunity to work with and evaluate over a hundred college-aged staff each year for the past four years, and through his years of working at Minikani, Farrah has shown himself to be a particularly stand-out employee and community member. Not only do I believe that he is incredibly well fit for a career in this field, but I am equally confident that he would be an asset to any educational institution.

I have known and supervised Farrah for approximately 6 years as he progressed from Leadership Trainee to camp counselor to, this past summer, Day Camp Director. Farrah stepped into the role of Day Camp Director unexpectedly after another staff member suddenly left the position. Prior to this, Farrah had been hired to be a staff support role on our leadership team, but it was clear that he was the strongest candidate to fill this last-minute opening as we had immense confidence in his ability to navigate the challenge. Farrah seamlessly jumped into managing the new responsibilities of program management and staff supervision with care and skill. Through this, I witnessed Farrah demonstrate an immensely high level of adaptability, integrity, and an incredibly high work ethic.

In the summer camp setting, our leadership trainees and staff get ample training and practice developing the skillset necessary to provide high-quality compassionate, intentional, and child-focused care. Farrah has shown an exemplary aptitude for developing and embodying these skills. His ability to meet each child where they are and to ensure that their individual needs are attended to is excellent. Each week, he managed countless situations in which he successfully balanced his role as a parent communicator, staff supporter, and camper advocate. I have seen him demonstrate a high level of empathy and communication with fellow staff, whether they be peers, supervisors, or those he is supervising. In my professional opinion, these experiences and skills make him supremely suited for a future in this field of study.

Farrah has demonstrated the work ethic, character, and interpersonal skills necessary to be highly successful in a future career in education. Without a doubt, he would come into any program with a strong foundation in leadership and youth-work on top of an eagerness to reflect, learn, and grow. I would not hesitate for a moment to admit him into your program. If more information is needed, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Sincerely,

*Rachel Kornetsky*

Rachel Kornetsky

414 Fellows AmeriCorps Program Manager, Marquette University

Former Summer Camp Director, YMCA Camp Minikani (2019-2023)

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