

March 13, 2013

Gina Dews
9933 Campus Way South
Largo, MD 20774

RE: Take Charge Juvenile Diversion Program
CINS Proposal

To whom it may concern:

In February of this year, my son was referred to the Take Charge Juvenile Diversion Program in Forestville by Stacey Huggins. His behavior had cause me great concern due to his failing in school, in jeopardy of repeating the eighth grade, lying, stealing, and suffering from low self-esteem as a result of an absent father.

My child is currently in the eighth grade. He is 14 years old. Prior to Take Charge, my child's grade average was 1.0. Thus far, since being in the program, improvements from F to C were made in Math class and F to D in Science. In addition, I am beginning to see a change in my son. Although he had a slow start as a result of the wall he had up, the information and the accountability that the program offers is making him more conscious of his choices.

As a parent who has had difficulty with a child 14 years old and a resident of Prince George's County for more than 6 years, I support continued and additional funding for Take Charge. Parents who have access to this program will benefit a lot and develop better parenting skills and their children will have good role models, be held accountable and learn better ways to behave and think about the consequences of their actions and how to think through their choices. I would highly recommend this program to any single mother raising a troubled teenager.

I would be happy to talk with you about my experience with Take Charge. It has helped my child and our family become closer, to communicate better, and talk out our differences.

Sincerely,



Gina L. Dews
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