Stacey M. Huggins, MBA 9300 Eldon Drive Clinton, MD 20735

RE: Take Charge Juvenile Diversion Program CINS Proposal

To whom it may concern:

In December 2012, I was in search for a preventative program that would help me get through to my 14 year old son who was having behavior problems at home. I contacted Upper Marlboro Family Services and I was referred to the Take Charge Program. We interviewed and began the program on January 08, 2013.

My child is in the 8th grade and is currently being home schooled thru K12 International Academy. He is 14 years old. Prior to starting the Take Charge Program, my child's grades were B average. After being in the program for 10 weeks, he's currently at a 3.5 GPA and aiming for a 4.0. Fortunately for me, my son's grades weren't really the issue; it was his attitude that caused him to have behavior issues both at home as well as when he was in a regular school setting. This is the reasoning behind the home school decision. I felt and still feel that it was the best decision that I could have made for my son, as it has proved that when he's focused and with no distractions, he can achieve greatness.

As a single parent, who has had difficulty with my son over the past 2 years, beginning at the age of 12 till now, I feel that the referral for the Take Charge Program was heaven sent. And as a resident of Prince George's County for more than 5 years, I absolutely support continued and additional funding for the Take Charge Program. Parents who have access to this program will benefit a lot and develop better parenting skills. Their children will also have good role models and learn better ways to behave and think about the consequences of their actions and how to think through their choices.

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

Sincerely.

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