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**KELLY MILLER**  
**MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Marian Wilkins  
301 49<sup>th</sup> Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20019  
September 21, 2016

To whom this may concern:

For the past year I have had the opportunity to work with Mr. Jerrod Mustaf and his staff of the Take Charge Basketball Program during our afterschool program at Kelly Miller. This program meets on Mondays and Wednesdays from 4:00-6:00 PM and has even to this date continued to maintain a high percentage of participation from our scholars. This program has taught our scholars not only basketball skills and drills but life lessons. Jerrod and his staff have instilled in our scholars the importance of working on a team, being a leader, problem solving, collaboration with peers, respectful dialogues with adults and peers, and what it means to be responsible. These values directly aligned with the vision and mission of Kelly Miller, cultivating the whole child. With the new challenges we are facing this year of being an extended school year, increasing our scholar enrollment, and pushing our students both academically and socially, having strong community partners like Take Charge will help catapult us in the right direction.

We have at least 18 scholars who are interested in continuing with this program throughout the school year however, it has been brought to my attention that they are slated to cancel our partnership at the end of September due to lack of funding. As the afterschool director, I fully support the efforts of the Take Charge Program as they seek external funding to support our partnership. Any programs that can help our scholars, specifically our African American boys make better decisions about life and its consequences are a must for our program.

If you have any additional questions or need any additional information from me you can reach me by phone at 202-388-6870 or by email at [marian.wilkins@dc.gov](mailto:marian.wilkins@dc.gov). Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Marian Wilkins  
Afterschool Coordinator  
Kelly Miller Middle School