



Connecting Greater Richmond to build community

September 5, 2008

Richmond Public Schools
Human Resources
301 North Ninth Street
Richmond, VA 23219-1927

Dear Human Resources Representative:

At the request of Ms. Qasarah Bey and toward your consideration of her for a teaching position with the Richmond Public School system, I am pleased to recommend her without exception.

Ms. Bey served United Methodist Urban Ministries of Richmond (UMUMR), a 501 (c) (3) Virginia nonprofit corporation, as an advanced standing Master of Social Work intern from June 2007 to May 2008. As her in-agency Field Instructor, I provided direct supervision and support to Ms. Bey throughout her internship.

Ms. Bey exhibited the exceptional ability to critically evaluate and effectively apply varied learning theories gained in her MSW studies to the practical teaching and learning situations among agency staff, in community group meetings, and with various individuals. Clearly, her former experiences in a more clinical setting afforded a level of self and other awareness that enhanced her teaching and learning effectiveness. Additionally, her steadfast endeavor to understand and improve her work in various educational roles, including that of Youth Minister (middle and high-school ages) in her church, provided additional and mutual benefit.

One agency assignment that Ms. Bey completed with exceptional success and national acclaim was to assess for its effectiveness a specific section of a nationally used community development curriculum. This nearly year-long project required Ms. Bey to collaboratively evaluate the curriculum and to report the findings in writing and verbally to a Communities of Shalom national meeting. The project yielded a well-developed, multi-disciplinary assessment that was well-received and is being applied.

While interning, Ms. Bey balanced the joys and challenges of parenting with her academic and faith-based endeavors. Her energy and devotion to family, academics, church and community are valuable and commendable assets.

Moreover, I have found Ms. Bey to be a well-balanced person with exceptional abilities and who is highly motivated to excel in any endeavor. Therefore, I highly recommend her for your teaching position and expect she will be a valued asset to your organization as she has been to this agency and to the communities in which she lives, learns and works.

Sincerely,

Rev. N. David Cooper, MDiv, MSW, CPM
Executive Director

United Methodist Urban Ministries of Richmond (UMUMR)
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