



**Community Building Partnership
For Youth in Transition, a Program of Denver
Department of Human Services, City and County of Denver
1200 Federal Boulevard
Denver, CO 80204-3221
Phone: (720) 944-2800
Fax: (720) 944-1716**

March 6, 2007

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with enthusiasm that I write this recommendation letter for Jennifer Samimi as she applies for the CLAS Outstanding Undergraduate Award. Jennifer currently serves as a full time AmeriCorps member with the Community Building Partnership for Youth in Transition AmeriCorps program. I have known her since the first of October 2006.

1. Character and leadership qualities

Jennifer's host site is the Bannock Youth Center, where she works with youth, case workers, and volunteers in an effort to mentor youth in areas necessary for self-sufficiency. In addition to mentoring, Jenn plans and implements life skills classes as well as the leadership program. She offers stability, follow-through, and thoughtfulness to any project that she undertakes. She is a leader among youth as well as the other members of our AmeriCorps team. This is seen through her citizenship, trustworthiness, and willingness to lead a variety of activities.

2. Contributions to the community

By signing on with the AmeriCorps program, Jenn is committing to a year of service in her community. She has already planned multiple service learning projects with the youth at her site and has taken part in the different service projects offered by our AmeriCorps team. By mentoring youth one-on-one at her site and connecting these youth with resources, she is painting a brighter picture of our future as a community.

3. Scholarly attributes and potential

While I am not as familiar with Jenn in an academic setting, I can say that she is successfully juggling a full time AmeriCorps commitment with school. She draws on her studies to enhance our AmeriCorps program as well, which offers me a break as a facilitator.

4. Research and creative activities

Jenn brings her creativity to her host site on a daily basis. She has rejuvenated various curriculums around life skills and continues to revamp the leadership program at the Bannock Youth Center. She empowers the youth to be heard and then weaves their suggestions into material for her classes. It is this creativity that keeps the youth coming back to Bannock for more than just resources – but for inspiration and growth.

I strongly recommend Jenn for this CU Denver award and am proud to have her on our team.

Sincerely,

Julia Hughes
Program Coordinator



**Community Building Partnership
For Youth in Transition, a Program of Denver
Department of Human Services, City and County of Denver
1200 Federal Boulevard
Denver, CO 80204-3221
Phone: (720) 944-2800
Fax: (720) 944-1716**