



COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter in support of Outside the Box Dropout Prevention, which partners with service- learning volunteers to conduct one-to-one tutoring and mentoring to students (grades K-12) who are at risk of dropping out of school due to academic, social, and/or emotional challenges.

I am a professor of ALD 322, Individual Differences, a course at The University of Texas at Austin, which requires enrolled students to complete at least 15 hours of field work as a service learning project.

For the past two sessions, I have recommended Outside the Box Dropout Prevention as a site for students to complete their service learning project. My students who volunteered with Outside the Box Dropout Prevention enjoyed their work with the program, felt that it provided a necessary resource in the Montopolis community, and recommended that I keep offering it as a field work option in future semesters.

Outside the Box Dropout Prevention provides a necessary service in East Austin, where graduation rates for students of color continue to lag behind their white peers. Expanding Outside the Box Dropout Prevention's Success Program will help address the graduation gap. In addition, it will allow more UT students to become more deeply involved in the greater Austin community, hopefully investing them in the hard work that closing the graduation gap requires.

I value my relationship with Outside the Box Dropout Prevention and am interested in continuing our partnership by being involved with them during the 2016-17 school year and beyond. Please contact me if you require additional information.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Klingler Tackett, Ph. D.  
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