



SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

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To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to express my resounding support for the Center for Students in Recovery (CSR) at The University of Texas at Austin. It is with pleasure that I write this letter, as I have been profoundly moved and impressed by the Center and associated staff and students since its inception. There are only a few such centers in the nation and there is no other organization on campus that I would more highly commend. I have had the honor of being a faculty member on the Executive Board of the Center. I am also a professor in the School of Social work conducting federally funded substance abuse research.

The resources of the Center are excellent. Laura Swann, the Director of the center is a tireless powerhouse of a leader. Her commitment and dedication to the students and the Center is absolutely extraordinary. She is vibrant, bright, connected, genuine, and available to help at every turn. Through her leadership, the Center has thrived and become a model for such programs proliferating nationally. She inspires individuals to function at the highest possible levels and to continue to grow with enthusiasm and wonder. Her innovative thinking with regard to community-based support and fundraising has made so many things possible in terms of resources for the students served by the Center. For example, in just two years, the Fun, Fun Sober Run has become a substantial event with 678 participants in 2007, not to mention those there to support the event! Thanks to the Center and its resources, the students of the center have enjoyed the abundance of support and guidance in their academic, emotional, spiritual, financial, and social lives.

The Center needs more support to meet its goals and achieve its visions. I take every opportunity to tell others about CSR and to encourage others to support the Center. I encourage donations, if not financial, then energy and time. I have been a part of the recovery community for most of my life and the love and support that comes from others with awareness and sensitivity to the unique issues of people in recovery is imperative. Such support did not exist when I was in college. I have heard the students associated with the Center confirm this in testimonies which note that the Center has helped save lives. It is my deepest hope that the center will continue to flourish and serve!

If you have any questions or need any additional information, feel free to contact me at (512) 232-9330.

Respectfully,

Lori K. Holleran Steiker, Ph.D.

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