



Eric S. Gordon
Chief Executive Officer

December 2, 2019

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Eric S. Gordon

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Jyl Steinback
Executive Director
Shape Up US
16356 N. Thompson Peak Parkway
Scottsdale, AZ 85254-2214

Dear Ms. Steinback:

This letter of support is submitted on behalf of the Cleveland Metropolitan School District in partnership with *Shape Up US*. We consider our partnership with *Shape Up US* a priority as we work to address the issues of childhood obesity and its health effects on students.

Childhood obesity has more than tripled in the past 30 years. In response, obesity treatment programs have been developed. However, only 5% of scientific studies of these programs found long term health effects. Therefore, effective interventions are needed with a different approach with the best evidence. Cleveland Metropolitan School District proposes to improve student health and academic performance using *Shape Up US*' Hip-Hop Healthy Heart Program for Children™ program.

The Mission of *Shape Up US* is to build a circle of wellness that integrates comprehensive health education into existing curriculum. They target educators as the flagship entry-point for introducing its programs to students and parents at schools. It flows from teacher, to student, to family, to community, and back to the classroom.

The Cleveland Metropolitan School District looks forward to partnering with *Shape Up Us*, and thanks you for your kind consideration of their grant request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Eric S. Gordon', is written over a blue horizontal line.

Eric S. Gordon

Educator: Chief Executive Officer