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Cresco Labs
400 W Erie St #110
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To Whom it May Concern:

On behalf of Habitat for Humanity Chicago, I am writing this letter in support of Marlene Fisher, who has consistently displayed a strong work ethic for improving neighborhood health in her own community.

Habitat Chicago is community development organization focused on developing both physical assets and local capacity, and we have been working in Greater Grand Crossing since 2017. Our development efforts rely heavily on working directly with local leaders to identify and act on improvement opportunities and Marlene was among the first residents we met upon entering into the neighborhood. Since then, we've seen Marlene take on several thoughtful community building projects aimed at bringing her neighbors together. Through our Neighbors United program, Marlene organized and rallied her neighbors to develop block club signs, plant flowers and decorate blocks with festive lights.

Beyond our own programs, what makes Marlene such a strong force for her community is her willingness to take up leadership roles even when there is an absence of obvious support. She stepped up to form and become the President of the Greenwood University Block Club and has been taking great strides to improve quality of life in Greater Grand Crossing through actions such as partnering with her ward's Alderman on community policing efforts. She also has a natural ability for identifying potential assets in the community and cultivating them for public benefit. For example, she has developed and maintained a community garden for several years, which recently won a Chicago Excellence in Gardening award in 2018. When Marlene brings her community together to take action, she does not settle for anything less than quality results.

As a 10+ year resident of the Greater Grand Crossing neighborhood, Marlene's actions have consistently put the community first. When it comes to executing a new idea, Marlene's direct and honest demeanor ensures she will earn buy-in and her clear-eyed understanding of her community ensures a relevant outcome. It is because of these qualities that we recommend Marlene, without reservation, for acceptance into your incubator program

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elizabeth Walker".

Elizabeth Walker
Associate Director, Programs

