



Special Education Services

3045 Santiago Street

San Francisco, CA 94116

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November 14, 2022

Dear Dylan and Jen,

It gives me great pleasure to present this letter in support of your application for a MZHF Community + UCSF Partnership Award entitled "Clinical and Educational Partnership to Improve Care for Children with Special Health-Care Needs." As the Head of Special Education at San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD), I oversee many children who have care shared between SFUSD and UCSF, including our population of deaf or hard-of-hearing (D/HH) children. Our two organizations play a vital role in supporting the children of San Francisco; however, communication across our systems can be challenging, leading to inefficiencies in care.

I have directly partnered with you, Dylan, in working to improve collaboration and communication between our programs, and know that Jenny Herges has worked very closely with your team for years. I am excited for the opportunity afforded by this project to formalize your collaboration on D/HH children, and even more excited that Jen Albon is involved to expand the scope of this partnership to encompass all children with special health-care needs.

I appreciate your approach of first working with stakeholders in both organizations to understand the collaborative needs and students who would most benefit from it, and your ultimate goal in building simple systems to improve our ability to work with each other. Our teachers, therapists, nurses, and other educational providers would greatly benefit from being able to connect more easily with their students' medical teams at UCSF, and the students themselves will benefit from their educational and medical teams working more closely together.

In her role as Special Education Supervisor and experience partnering with UCSF, Jenny Herges is ideally suited to lead this project from within SFUSD. With funding from this award, we would be able to commit the personnel effort to support and accomplish this project's aims.

We look forward to building this partnership together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jean Robertson".

Jean Robertson
Head of Special Education
San Francisco Unified School District