February 3, 2020

RE: Letter of Recommendation for Preshona Ghose

Dear Hiring Manager:

I respectfully submit this letter of recommendation for **Preshona Ghose** who I had the pleasure of working with and learning from as my direct report during Youth Uprising community center's opening year in 2005. Preshona was placed at our center as part of her AmeriCorps service after graduating from college.

During this first year of the center's existence, Preshona served as a Front Desk and Membership Assistant whose stellar work was integral in developing the infrastructure for these critical operations. Some of her accomplishments included developing processes & procedures for intaking our new youth members, developing & leading the center's daily membership orientations, and partnering with local youth organizations to connect their young people with our resources. She was also a creative innovator who was adept at evaluating our program and searching for ways to improve it. This later led to her much deserved advancement within our organization.

Furthermore, she was a sought out mentor to our youth. She was approachable, a good & non-judgmental listener, and provided a safe space for our young people to develop in their own time. Preshona's steadfast commitment to our youth members was inspiring, and - along with her solid technical & communication skills and work ethic - it was clear that she would become a remarkable change agent in the years to come. My only regret is that I was not able to work with her longer, as I accepted my current position during the fall of that first year.

With that said, I would absolutely welcome the opportunity to work with her again and recommend her without reservation.

Sincerely,

Melissa Urbano Senior Administrative Specialist, Annual Programs University Development and Alumni Relations University of California, Berkeley