



February 13, 2023

To whom it may concern:

I am writing this letter in support and appreciation of High Road School of Philadelphia. At Uplift Center for Grieving Children, we have been privileged to partner with High Road for the past 5 years, providing in-school therapeutic grief peer support groups with youth who have had significant death(s) of any cause. This partnership would not exist without the tremendous support of Henry Demby, the School's Transition Coordinator, District & School Assessment Coordinator, and Senior Advisor. It is a true joy to work with Mr. Demby. In order for Uplift to provide these in-school support groups, Mr. Demby does a great deal of coordination with Social Services staff to get referrals, with students to tell them about the group and gauge interest, with families to engage them for consent, and the rest of the school to ensure the schedule of grief groups works with other school activities. Our groups would not be possible without him!

Working with and partnering with Mr. Demby and the other High Road staff is very special due to its uniquely small and highly supportive community. The entire school community is extremely invested in their students benefiting from an Uplift grief group. I will often see "Grief Group Happening on ___" with the date and time on the board in the main office. Uplift's flyers for our evening grief groups are always printed out and available for students and families in the main office as well. All staff are aware that grief group is happening that day, and go out of their way to ensure students can attend. Educators at High Road who don't have a formal role coordinating grief group will still stop us in the hallway to inquire about how it went, and sit outside the room if students need extra support.

In addition, Uplift has a very long wait-list for in-school grief groups. Mr. Demby always makes sure to reach out many months in advance to secure High Road's spot on the list, and checks in frequently to ask for status updates, timeframes for the following year, etc.

We are very grateful for this partnership and look forward to continuing this partnership with High Road School of Philadelphia for many years to come.

Thank you,

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