

February 7, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with pleasure and great respect that I write this letter of recommendation for Jennifer Reinke. Jenni is a program participant with Public Allies Milwaukee, a full-time leadership development apprenticeship opportunity for young leaders seeking to create community change. Jenni was selected through a competitive application process to become one of thirty-three participants for our 2007-2008 Ally program.

Each year, we at Public Allies, take promising young leaders, ages 18-30, and place them in full-time, ten-month paid apprenticeships at nonprofit partner organizations throughout Milwaukee. In addition to their apprenticeship work in the community, the Allies gather as a class for weekly trainings facilitated by community leaders, nonprofit and business executives, and professional consultants. The Allies also work together on a Team Service Project to organize their own innovative initiative to address a community need. For over a decade, Public Allies Milwaukee has created an energetic, talented and diverse network of young leaders that will work to strengthen our community for years to come.

Jenni is exceeding our expectations as a Public Ally thus far in the program. Jenni's apprenticeship is at Friends of Milwaukee's Rivers where she serves as Milwaukee River Ally. Jenni strives to increase awareness of clean water through education projects and volunteer engagement. She has had the opportunity to work with environmental activists, volunteers, concerned citizens, board members, and other stakeholders throughout the community and non-profit sector to improve the health of Milwaukee's rivers. Jenni has gained valuable knowledge of the serious environmental concerns facing Milwaukee's river system and the solutions needed.

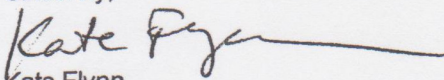
During her year as an Ally, Jenni will receive nearly 300 hours of training designed to encourage and inspire her growth and development as an emerging young leader in our community. Jenni will receive training in over 40 topics including Authentic Communication, Volunteer Management, Diversity & Anti-Oppression, and Asset-Based Community Development. Each of our Allies is encouraged to apply the skills and models learned in their training sessions to their apprenticeship work with their partner organizations.

In addition to her apprenticeship at Friends of Milwaukee's Rivers, Jenni works with eight other Allies to develop and implement a Team Service Project. Jenni's team is currently in the planning phase of a Request for Proposals (RFP) process to create a project to build upon the assets of a community to improve Milwaukee's quality of life. She is gaining a rich understanding of strategies for effective project planning in a team setting.

Jenni has consistently demonstrated her commitment to social change and her passion for continuous learning. Jenni's team benefits from her thoughtful approach to new information and methodical leadership style. She demonstrates strong analytical skills and is instrumental in guiding the group through the decision-making process. Jenni's team and the entire Public Allies class are strengthened by her intelligence and dedication. She has demonstrated strong personal character and will be an effective leader working for social justice.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts with you regarding Jenni. Please feel free to contact me, if you need additional information. I can be reached at flynnka@uwm.edu or (414) 227-3135.

Sincerely,



Kate Flynn
Program Manager/Director of Training & Learning
Public Allies Milwaukee