

March 15, 2013

May Institute
41 Pacella Park Drive
Randolph, MA 02368

RE: Support for the Classroom to Community Initiative: May Institute for
Child Development in Woburn



To Whom It May Concern:

Supportive Living, Inc. (SLI), and the May Institute launched a program together over two years ago, and in doing so, have become community partners. Jaimie Hoover, Executive Director of the May Center for Child Development reached out to SLI to see what opportunities may exist. We were excited to see where we could help. Our homes provided an excellent environment for the students to bring their classroom experiences into the community. The *Classroom to Community Initiative* started at McLaughlin House, a home for survivors of brain injury, in February of 2011. The highly trained staff, who accompanied the students to McLaughlin House, made quite an impression. Their experience with coaching and working with children with autism was evident to the staff at McLaughlin House, as well as to our residents.

Our Program Manager at McLaughlin House, Frank Santillo, and his staff, welcomed the students from day one. Frank's assessment and ongoing feedback has always been positive and the reason a weekly visit was expanded to twice per week. When the students and coaches first arrived there was an adjustment period. We agreed on cleaning responsibilities, developed a checklist for coaches to help monitor student progress and walked through the home so they would become familiar with the layout. After a few visits, the staff and students knew where to find supplies and became self sufficient upon arriving at the home. The students are always well supervised and behaved, organized and work together as a group. They have a plan and schedule which they stick to. The staff is courteous and work very well with the students. They show a lot of compassion and are good at guiding the students for the task at hand such as cleaning the windows and vacuuming the carpets. In summary, Frank said the program works well for the students, coaches, McLaughlin House staff and residents. It is a definite win-win relationship. It is a pleasure having them.

This letter of support for the *Classroom to Community Initiative* is well deserved and it is our intent to expand this when the opportunity arises.

Sincerely,
Supportive Living, Inc.

John Kacamburas
Program Manager

Supportive Living, Inc.

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