



March 19, 2021

Kristin Harrington  
Executive Director  
Youth Solutions Inc.  
330 West Main Street  
Benton Harbor, MI 49022

Dear Ms. Harrington,

On behalf of Andrews University, I am writing to express support for the Inspiring Futures: Benton Harbor effort and its work to bring together a robust collection of local leaders, including our own expert Dr. Charity Garcia (Assistant Professor of Curriculum and Instruction). As an integral member of the Southwest Michigan community, Andrews understands the critical importance of collective work. We are excited to play our part in creating seamless high-quality programming that moves students along a continuum of services resulting in long-term career success.

As a university founded on Christian ideals and values, we encourage strong moral principles and a close relationship with God. We believe in a holistic approach to life that balances body, mind and spirit in such a way that students are fully prepared to serve the world when they finish their studies. In short, we know and are committed to the work that the collaborative group is undertaking and believe strongly in the power of a holistic approach to educational delivery.

The Inspiring Futures: Benton Harbor project will focus directly on programs targeting youth that have been disenfranchised and need new educational opportunities for future success, aligning these programs into a network that includes the right interventions, at the right times, with the right partners. This work will create lasting, meaningful, and substantive opportunities for all students of the region. These goals directly align with the mission of Andrews University, and we are eager to be a collaborative voice in this most important work. In short it is my pleasure to **whole-heartedly endorse the Inspiring Futures: Benton Harbor project and commit to its success.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrea Luxton".

Andrea Luxton, PhD  
*President*

dp

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