

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Duluth Campus

*Department of Applied Human Sciences
College of Education and Human Service Professions*

*110 Sports & Health Center
1216 Ordean Court
Duluth, MN 55812-3032
Office: 218-726-7120
Fax: 218-726-6243
cehsp.d.umn.edu/ahs*

November 4, 2021

Foundation for the Advancement of Health Education
Dr. Becky J. Smith Scholarship
Application for Undergraduate Student Scholarship

Subject: Letter of reference for Ms. Amy Harris

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing this letter of reference for Ms. Amy Harris as part of her application for the Dr. Becky J. Smith Scholarship. I respond to this both as Amy's research mentor, as she has worked as my undergraduate research assistant for the past two semesters, and as Amy's public health professor. Amy is a full-time undergraduate student, majoring in both Public Health and Biology.

First, Amy is an outstanding student researcher. She was proactive in seeking me out to discuss research opportunities with underserved communities, as my research is focused on reducing risk for alcohol-exposed pregnancies among American Indian women. Amy shows a sensitivity to the topic, and has taken the initiative to read different research articles. Amy plays a key role in our data quality control and in interacting with our tribal partner. Because of her hard work, Amy is a co-author on two peer reviewed publications and presented a poster at the Minnesota SOPHE conference.

In addition to her work in research, Amy is an excellent student and excels academically. Amy is extremely organized, timely, and asks good and complex questions in class. Her research papers in *Planning Community Health Interventions* are of high quality and she able to take public health theories and methods and apply them appropriately. Amy is in the top 5% of students academically, all while a second biology major and several extracurricular activities. Therefore, I give my highest recommendations to Amy's application for this scholarship. Amy is an outstanding young public health researcher and is building extensive knowledge of health education. If you have any specific questions about my recommendation, please do not hesitate to contact me at jdhanson@d.umn.edu.

Sincerely,



Jessica D. Hanson, PhD
Assistant Professor
Department of Applied Human Sciences, Public Health Program
University of Minnesota Duluth