

**ISABEL K LATZ, PH.D**

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**To: Dr. Mary K. Beyrer Graduate Student Scholarship Review Committee**

To the review committee for the Dr. Mary K. Beyrer Graduate Student Scholarship,

I am writing in strong support of Lindsay Keeling's application for the Dr. Mary K. Beyrer Graduate Student Scholarship. Lindsay is an outstanding student in our MPH-MSW program with valuable experience in research, community service, and leadership roles prior to and alongside her studies. From the 3 ½ years I have been teaching in higher education, Lindsay stands out to me as one of the smartest, most qualified, and dedicated students I have had the pleasure to meet. She was a student in my courses PHLS 5998 Field Experience and PHLS 5230 Community Organization in Public Health in the Summer and Fall of 2022, respectively.

For her Field Experience, Lindsay took the initiative to be placed with Alianza of New Mexico, a non-profit organization that provides services for housing, HIV/Aids, substance use, and other areas. Lindsay assisted the organization with health education materials, resources, and community events for hard-to-reach individuals, including LGBTQ+, injection drug users, and rural residents. Throughout her Field Experience, she demonstrated a remarkable degree of professionalism, organization, and dedication to her role. In the Community Organization course, we discussed topics related to inclusive community organizing and community building, such as Paulo Freire's Liberation Pedagogy, Saul Alinsky's Rules for Radicals, and anti-racism praxis. Lindsay demonstrated a sincere interest in all topics with thoughtful contributions to class discussions. Her assignments were of exceptional academic quality and beyond her in-depth comprehension of course materials, she had additional insights to share based on her Peace Corps position in Kosovo, where he helped organize a more inclusive national poetry competition for children from different national/cultural backgrounds.

Lindsay has not only continuously sought opportunities to advance her professional skills while serving communities in need, she also pursued numerous leadership roles. Given her sincere dedication to her studies, professional career, and community service, she is the ideal candidate for this scholarship and I wholeheartedly support her application. Please contact me anytime should you have any questions or want to discuss my recommendation further.

Respectfully,

  
Isabel K. Latz, Ph.D.