
November 28, 2023

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to you today to recommend Ms. Kaitlyn Stehr for the Dr. Becky J. Smith Scholarship. Kaitlyn is a current senior in the Public Health and Community Health Education program at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, and she is an exceptional candidate for this honor. As Kaitlyn's professor in her Methods and Strategies for Health Education course, and as an advisor in her role as a PHCHE Ambassador for our department, I have had the privilege of working with Kaitie, and can speak to her strengths as a future leader in our profession.

Throughout the time I have known her, Kaitie has constantly proven herself to be a capable, intelligent, and dependable student. Every class discussion or written response revealed her well-developed reflection on every aspect of health education, including the importance of health equity and utilizing a social-justice framework to meet the needs of all people. Her academic strength is evident in her 3.8 GPA. Kaitie has always been eager to learn and to work with others in pursuit of common goals, and her passion for public and community health education is evident in everything she does.

Kaitie has also been a consistent and effective advocate for public and community health. In her role as a PHCHE Ambassador, I have seen Kaitie truly grow into her own as a confident representative of both our major and the profession. In this role, she has been responsible for many aspects of mentoring, marketing, and promotion: designing informational presentations about public and community health education to share with current and prospective undergraduate students; meeting with prospective students one-on-one to answer questions about career and course trajectories; and mentoring current undergraduates as they plan their steps through the program. She has demonstrated an incredible capacity to explain the importance of public and community health, as well as encourage others to see its value and necessity for the benefit of our world.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support Ms. Kaitlyn Stehr as a candidate for the Dr. Becky J Smith Scholarship and can think of no one better to represent Dr. Smith and the Foundation for the Advancement of Health Education with this honor. Please feel free to contact me at spember@uwlax.edu with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,



Sarah Pember, Ph.D.