

November 26, 2023

Dear Scholarship Committee,

With this letter, I would like to enthusiastically recommend Taylor Levy, MPH for the SOPHE Dr. Mary K. Beyr scholarship. Ms. Levy is currently a first year doctoral student at the UTHealth School of Public Health in the Department of Health Promotion and Behavioral Sciences. Although I have not been an instructor for Ms. Levy, I am her academic advisor and am also her direct supervisor. Therefore, I feel confident that I know her well enough to provide a letter of recommendation for her.

In all my interactions with Ms. Levy, she has shown herself to be a dedicated and hardworking, mature student. She knows where she wants to end up after she graduates and is proactively working towards that goal. Although she has several main areas of interest, her passion seems to be in the area of food insecurity. Ms. Levy meets all the criteria for the Dr. Mary K. Beyr scholarship: she currently has a 4.0 GPA and is enrolled as a doctoral student in the Department of Health Promotion and Behavioral Sciences.

Ms. Taylor is active in professional activities, and she is currently a member of SOPHE and Texas SOPHE which has allowed her to present several projects at SOPHE conferences. She presented research on the *“Challenges and solutions to transitioning a service-learning, community-based nutrition program from synchronous to asynchronous delivery”* at the Texas SOPHE Virtual Conference in 2021. Additionally, she presented *“Process and impact program evaluation of Eta Sigma Gamma student-led holiday food drives”* at the 72nd Annual Meeting of SOPHE virtual meeting in 2021. In 2023, she presented research on *“At Home and Away from Home Dietary Behaviors of Food Insecure and Food Secure Parents”* at the Texas SOPHE 2023 Conference in Austin, Texas.

Ms. Levy is promising both in intellect and character, and I highly recommend her for this scholarship. This scholarship will help her continue to deepen her body of knowledge and skills in the world of public health and propel her into her career in academia.

I am happy to discuss any further questions you may have about Ms. Levy. Please feel free to contact me at [Alexandra.E.vandenBerg@uth.tmc.edu](mailto:Alexandra.E.vandenBerg@uth.tmc.edu).



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