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November 24, 2023

Dear Selection Committee,

I am writing this letter for recommend Ms. Jakeina Sutton for the scholarship your organization is offering. I first met Ms. Sutton when she started her MPH at UNCG in 2021 and then more formally during the Fall semester of 2023 as a student in my Evaluation and Research Methods course. As her advisor, Ms. Sutton and I have met together on several occasions to discuss her future aspiration as a public health educator. Additionally, as the Graduate Program Director here at UNCG in the Department of Public Health Education, I get to know our MPH students quite well and work closely with those who are interesting opportunities outside of our university.

Based on the classroom interactions I had and to continue to have with Ms. Sutton, I can tell you that she shows great passion and appreciation for the field of public health. Whenever she could, she would try to take our in-class work and apply it to her research and practice interests. She has solid skills in taking empirical research and translating it into community health application. Whereas I did not have Ms. Sutton for all of her academic courses, I learned from several other faculty that she is very driven in the classroom and seeks to do her best at everything she gets her hands on. Through coursework and comprehensive projects, she demonstrated the capability of performing academic research at an advanced level. Throughout her MPH, she was assigned many complex assignments that required combining public health knowledge with critical thinking and problem-solving skills. I sincerely believe that she is worthy of the scholarship.

Ms. Sutton continues to strive for excellence and desires to use her expertise to improve the health and well-being of communities state-wide and beyond. Ms. Sutton has been presented many challenges in her life and there is no one else I can think of that embodies the term perseverance more than she does. No matter the challenge, she carries a positive attitude and puts the work forth that is needed. I appreciate her perseverance, passion, and drive. I believe she is well positioned and has extensive experience to further bring her background in public health to the next level. I sincerely believe that many communities will benefit from Ms. Sutton's interdisciplinary education.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me Sincerely,

Jeffrey Milroy, Dr.PH, MPH

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