Christin Gates Calloway

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August 22, 2018

Re: Letter of Support for the Institute on Transformative Community Engagement

Dear Community Services Committee,

Christin Gates Calloway

I would like to express my heartfelt support as an individual for the <u>Institute on Transformative Community Engagement</u>. I have watched Sabrina work on behalf of Black Women with the Black Women's Leadership Conference for the last 3 years. I have attended the conference for the last two years and have found the space to be one of the warmest, welcoming, yet heterogeneous gathering of Black Women within Dane County. At this conference, I have personally experienced women, no matter their age, education, income or title leave the space feeling more energized and empowered to persist in their current roles, or inspired to pursue new opportunities. Furthermore, the conference has done great work promoting collaboration across the city and the state with the Carola Gains Calibrator of the year award. With the success and influence of the Black Women's Leadership conference, I am sure that the <u>Institute on Transformative Community Engagement</u> will truly impact Madison residents and build bridges and foster greater collaboration between community and the city.

Moreover, Sabrina has a strong social media presence which acts as a social change agent within Dane county. Her social media presence has empowered grassroots leaders and has greatly strengthened grassroots community voice. It is one of the only venues where I have read organic, authentic rich discussion and dialogue on a number of issues within the city. I have been inspired and have financially contributed to her efforts support families whether its information sharing on high impact accessible summer enrichment for children or strategizing ways to keep a new mother from becoming homeless. Both are two of the many examples of how Sabrina has leveraged her individual positionality to begin conversations on systems level change. I am excited to see the selected multi-generational residents from across the city identify the assets and strengthen their goals for their neighborhoods. I am confident that their time with the Institute on Transformative Community Engagement will strengthen individual and collective efforts to transform communities and ultimately our city.