



September 21, 2016

To Whom It May Concern

I would like to speak on behalf of EDR and the effectiveness of their programs in support of young immigrant students in transition from high school to college, through increasing their understanding of academic expectations and realities, as well as fostering a culture of confidence and personal responsibility. As the former ELL Program Director at BATA, I collaborated with the EDR team as they held student centered focus groups, asking the participants directly what they thought and needed to be prepared for college. From that launching point, the EDR team gathered information from the students, many of whom had jobs and families to support, in the scheduling and logistics of the pilot, which culminated in a resounding success.

I truly believe that the impact of this summer program has been profoundly positive. Many students have asked if there will be another session like it, in the hopes of attending. It is in the best interest of our youth that EDR continue to provide outstanding academic transitions programs for our English Language Learners. Coursework such as this bring our scholars to a more confident arena in academic discourses and greatly increase their comfort levels in the campus atmosphere. I fully support the work done by EDR and will continue to do so.

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