



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

15th Avenue

Office of Academic Affairs

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Eric Seiber, PhD  
Professor, Division of Health Services Management and Policy  
Director, Center for Health Outcomes and Policy Evaluation Studies  
The Ohio State University College of Public Health

Dear Dr. Seiber,

I am pleased to submit this letter of support acknowledging the exemplary community engagement activities and engaged scholarship led by the Center for HOPES in the College of Public Health. I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the Center for HOPES and its invaluable contributions to engaged scholarship in health equity.

The Office of Outreach & Engagement facilitates access to university expertise/resources for external community partners and works to build strong mutually beneficial community partnerships. We support these goals through our grants, symposia/events; awards/recognition, professional development activities and strategic initiatives. We center our programming around community needs that are identified through engagement with community and university stakeholders. We seek to lift up exemplary models of engagement and engaged scholarship led by university faculty and staff as a model for our peers across campus. We commonly point to the work of the Center for HOPES, as an exemplary model of engaged scholarship that supports the land grant mission of the university in pursuit of health equity.

As the director of the Office of Outreach & Engagement, I have had the privilege of witnessing the impactful work that Center for HOPES has undertaken over the years. The Center for HOPES is an exemplar in leading engaged scholarship with community partners. Due to the high-quality work led by the Center, we routinely refer community partners seeking engaged research expertise to the Center for HOPES. Given the importance of addressing social determinants of health and reducing health disparities in our community, the expertise of the Center for HOPES is critical to meeting a critical community need.

The Center for HOPES has consistently demonstrated a commitment to excellence in engaged research, innovation, and collaboration. Through its interdisciplinary approach and adherence to model practices in community engagement, the center has facilitated critical work supporting community partners. Furthermore, the Center for HOPES has played a pivotal role in fostering partnerships between academia, community stakeholders, nonprofits and government agencies, thereby translating research findings into real-world applications and solutions.

I look forward to the continued contribution of the Center for HOPES to furthering high impact engaged scholarship in our community.

Sincerely,

*Jason W. Reece*

Jason W. Reece, Ph.D.

Vice Provost for Urban Research and Community Engagement, Office of Academic Affairs  
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