



STATE OF ILLINOIS
17th Judicial Circuit
Winnebago-Boone Counties

Taryn L. Marko
Deputy Director, Juvenile Probation

04-07-21

To Whom It My Concern:

It is with great pleasure and excitement that I write this letter of support on behalf of the Winnebago County Juvenile Probation Department in support of the Life Decisions Program implemented by Jake Rogers.

The greater Rockford area has a high need for programming that targets at-risk youth. Over the past ten years or so, due to budgetary issues, we have seen a drastic decrease in pro-active programming for at-risk youth and there is no doubt a correlation between the loss of these programs and juvenile crime. The layout of this program is exactly what our at-risk youth need and what our community is lacking. The program's structure provides wrap-around services, mentoring, transitional housing and job-readiness, all of which are imperative when dealing with at-risk youth.

Jake's prior work with Juvenile Justice Ministries (JJM) speaks for itself. While working with JJM over the past several years, Jake has touched the lives of many minors that have been placed on Juvenile Probation with our department. There have been several minors with lengthy criminal records that began making positive changes in their lives once they began working with Jake and I have the upmost confidence that this program will produce much of the same.

Sincerely,

John Papiernik

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Papiernik".

Juvenile Probation Supervisor

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