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Graduate Admissions Committee

The Evergreen State College

2700 Evergreen Parkway NW

Olympia, WA 98505

Subject: Statement of Purpose for MPA Application

Dear Admissions Committee,

I am writing to express my profound interest in the Public Administration graduate program at Evergreen State College, with a particular emphasis on non-profit work. With a strong passion for serving the community and a desire to make a positive impact in the non-profit sector, I am excited about the opportunity to contribute to the field of public administration through your esteemed institution.

Growing up, I was exposed to the challenges faced by marginalized communities and witnessed the transformative power of non-profit organizations. More specifically, as a teenager, I was able to participate in an after-school program sponsored by the Youth Heartline Fund in Taos, NM. I was able to interact with many people and have access to

learning materials that had not been available to me in the past. This program was influential for me and remains a vibrant and safe program for the youth of Taos County. As an adult, I was a manager of a ballroom dance school in Albuquerque, NM for many years. We would always be willing to donate gift certificates and offer dance demonstrations for various non-profits in the city. In hindsight, I wish there could have been more that I could have done with non-profit organizations like the Barrett House and the Boys and Girls Clubs of Central New Mexico which are still doing tremendous work for the city of Albuquerque. As of late, I have been organizing and teaching at a weekly dance social here in Olympia that provides the community with a safe and all-inclusive environment that cultivates open communication and celebrates our diversity. These experiences ignited my desire to pursue a career that would allow me to address social issues and work towards building a more equitable society. Now that I am finishing my undergraduate work here at Evergreen at the end of this summer, I feel that I can further equip myself with the necessary skills and continue to help our community. It is my firm belief that acquiring a graduate degree in Public Administration, with a focus on non-profit work, will provide me with the necessary knowledge and skills to effectively lead and make a lasting difference in the non-profit sector.

Through extensive research and conversations with professionals in the field, I have come to understand the multifaceted nature of non-profit organizations. I am fascinated by the intricate dynamics of managing resources, mobilizing stakeholders, and effectively navigating the complex regulatory and financial landscapes that non-profit organizations face. It is my goal to develop a comprehensive understanding of these

challenges and acquire the necessary expertise to overcome them, enabling me to contribute significantly to the sector's growth and impact.

I firmly believe that the Public Administration graduate program at Evergreen State College is the ideal platform to realize my aspirations. Your program's curriculum, with its emphasis on public policy, organizational management, and leadership, perfectly aligns with my career goals in the non-profit sector. I am particularly drawn to courses such as Non-Profit Governance, Strategic Management for Non-Profit Organizations, and Financial Management for Non-Profit Entities, which will equip me with the specific skills needed to excel in this sector.

Furthermore, the diverse faculty at Evergreen State College, known for their expertise and research in non-profit management and public administration, will provide invaluable mentorship and guidance. I am eager to learn from their experiences and tap into their vast knowledge to develop a comprehensive understanding of best practices in non-profit management, strategic planning, and program evaluation.

In addition to the academic aspects of the program, I am excited about the practical experiences and networking opportunities that Evergreen offers. The chance to collaborate with fellow students and engage in experiential learning through internships and research projects will provide me with a firsthand understanding of the challenges and opportunities in the non-profit sector. I am confident that these experiences will enable me to apply theoretical knowledge to real-world scenarios, develop effective critical thinking skills, and enhance my ability to lead and inspire teams towards achieving meaningful impact.

Moreover, Evergreen's commitment to fostering a culture of social responsibility and community engagement resonates deeply with my personal values. I am eager to join the vibrant student community and engage in initiatives such as volunteering, community-based research, and public service projects. These opportunities will not only enrich my academic journey but also allow me to contribute to the betterment of the local community, aligning with my long-term commitment to social justice and equity.

In conclusion, I am wholeheartedly committed to pursuing a graduate degree in Public Administration with a focus on non-profit work at Evergreen State College. I am confident that the program's rigorous curriculum, distinguished faculty, and immersive learning experiences will provide me with the necessary skills and knowledge to excel in the non-profit sector and make a meaningful contribution to society.

I sincerely thank you for considering my application and taking the time to review my statement of purpose. I have attached my completed application form, resume, and transcripts for your convenience. I am eagerly awaiting the opportunity to join the esteemed community of scholars and professionals at Evergreen and embark on this transformative academic journey.

Please feel free to contact me if you require any additional information or documentation. I can be reached at (505) 514-9518 or rudy.romero@evergreen.edu. Thank you once again for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Rudy Romero