

#### Application Related Information

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Application: Application Not Verified  
Grad Program Applying To: MPA

Iteration Name: 202410\_GR\_G  
Program Name: MPA

#### Recommendation Information

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Recommended By: Josephine Borchert  
Recommenders Institution: Telecare Corp  
Waive Access to Recommendation Ltrs: I choose to waive my right to review this recommendation.  
Recommendation Form Submitted: ✓

Recommenders Title: Music Therapist  
Contact Name: Aidan Wasson  
Recommendation Waiver Choice: I choose to waive my right to review this recommendation.  
Recommendation Status: Received

Received Date: 06/01/2023 06:29 PM  
Recommendation Type: General  
Recommendation Entity ID: 1024000109963000

Recommender Assessment: I recommend this applicant.  
Recommender Form: MPA Letter of Recommendation/Form  
Recommendation Owner: Josephine Bernier

#### Recommender Form Questions

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How long have you known applicant:  
  
5 years

Applicant ability as self-directed learner: Especially when the subject interests Aidan, there is no stopping him. Upon his being challenged in the area of public policy, Aidan has taken the initiative to involve himself in activist groups and consistently is learning more about how he can serve his community.

Time since last contact with applicant:

4 days

Applicant as productive member of group: At least once every other week, Aidan and I are involved in tabletop gaming together. Over several years, Aidan's ability to not only lead a collaborative storytelling game but also work together with players has improved significantly. Initially, I thought Aidan's group storytelling focused on his own story rather than the groups. Now, however, Aidan not only leads our group down an interesting plotline, but also incorporates our character's stories and their development as well!

Relationship with Applicant:

Friends

Applicant most significant strengths: Overall, I think Aidan's most significant strengths are his persistence and his openness to feedback.

Ability to complete rigorous grad program:	Excellent	Responsibility/reliability:	Outstanding
Communication Skills - Oral:	Very Good	Communication skills - written:	Outstanding
Service Orientation-sensitivity/empathy:	Outstanding	Ability to work independently:	Outstanding
Ability to handle stress:	Very Good	Ability to think critically:	Outstanding
Ability to analyze/problem solve:	Outstanding	Ability to think creatively:	Outstanding
Openness to feedback:	Outstanding	Potential for leadership:	Outstanding
Ability to work in a team:	Excellent	Personal/professional reflection:	Outstanding

#### Description Information

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Description:

Form URL: <https://evergreenstatecollege.radiu>

#### Other Information

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Created Time: 06/01/2023 12:43 PM

Created By: Josephine Bernier

Modified Time: 06/01/2023 06:29 PM

Modified By: Josephine Bernier

To who it may concern,

I have the pleasure of offering a letter of recommendation for my friend, Aidan. Initially, Aidan was just my friend's husband. A series of interactions led to my consideration of Aidan as not only a friend, but an ally.

First, Aidan's persistent support of his friends and acquaintances. Even before his change in ideology, Aidan has always been the first to step up and offer any assistance he can to his friends and neighbors. Even when facing hardship of his own, Aidan will offer his support to others at every turn, from sharing a meal to sharing his home while moving. He represents and work towards community with those around him consistently.

Second, in seeing his evolution in ideology. When we met and to this day, Aidan and I engage in debate often about our very different views on religions and politics. While consistently showing etiquette and kindness during debate, Aidan has always stood firm in his values. However, during the course of our knowing each other, Aidan's engaging in discourse with myself and others has led to his reflection and changing of his views and ideals. In fact, my favourite aspect of Aidan is his ability to listen to and receive feedback from others, even seeking opposing ideas to challenge his own. Despite this, it's not as if Aidan's mind is easy to change. He will stand firm in his beliefs until he has adequate information to change his ideas. After learning, it is impossible to stop Aidan from enriching and encouraging others to find the answer. It has been mutually exciting to walk alongside Aidan in his journey towards his goals of best serving his community.

Finally, in participating in his self-reflection and improvement. While serving as a foster parent, Aidan encountered challenges in caring for a newborn baby. Immediately when facing challenges, Aidan neglected isolation and reached out to peers and his therapist for support. He opened himself to criticism, advice, and guidance. While I wondered if he would lose interest in working towards the goal of caring for children, I have seen him continue for close to a year in working on these issues that make it challenging for him to care for newborns. He seeks new challenges even when he initially doubts his own abilities and perseveres despite challenges.

That being said, I see his pursuit of a graduate degree a natural part of the progression in his goals. I remember him telling me his reason for seeking higher education, stating, "I just feel like I'm not making a difference in the community." While I didn't know where this would lead him, his choice to return to school made sense in regards to his goals in fulfilling his purpose.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Josephine Borchert