

June 12, 2013

Mr. Jay Byers, CEO
Greater Des Moines Partnership
700 Locust Street, Suite 100
Des Moines, Iowa 50309

Regarding: Letter of Support, Nomination of **Georgia Van Gundy** for Women of Influence

Dear Jay,

On behalf of United Way of Central Iowa, I am honored to write in support of Georgia Van Gundy for the 2013 Women of Influence Award. Georgia's commitment and effectiveness as chair of United Way's Advocacy Committee make her worthy of this distinction.

Georgia currently serves as chair of United Way's Advocacy Committee and on the Executive Committee of the United Way Board of Directors. In these roles, she mobilizes the influence of community members to advocate for United Way's public policy agenda with the Iowa General Assembly and other elected officials. In the most recent legislative session, her efforts encouraged the passage of over \$27 million in initiatives to improve the education, financial stability and health of Iowans, including skilled workforce legislation, an emergency food system appropriation and an increase in the earned income tax credit for lower-income workers.

Georgia also is a member of United Way Women's Leadership Connection, serving on the Advocacy and Public Policy committees. She is one of our community's strongest advocates for improving the quality of early learning and care for at-risk children in our lowest-income neighborhoods.

In addition to her stellar service on behalf of United Way, Georgia has served as a policy leader for the Iowa Federation of Insurers, the Iowa Taxpayers Association, the Iowa Association of Business and Industry and the Greater Des Moines Partnership.

In the words of a United Way staff member, "Georgia has great enthusiasm and passion for her work. And, she brings that same passion and energy to her volunteer work at United Way. Georgia steps up with her ideas and has great follow through . . . I know she is busy with her corporate lobbying work, but she always finds the time to support United Way's efforts, too.

Georgia Van Gundy's support of United Way, her leadership and her influence as one of our community's leading policy advocates and advisors, make central Iowa the great place to live, work and prosper. She certainly has earned the distinction, 2013 Woman of Influence.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mary B. Sellers", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mary B. Sellers
President