

June 12, 2013

Women of Influence Selection Committee,

It is an honor and privilege to recommend and nominate Jodie Warth for Women of Influence 2013. Not only has she had tremendous success professionally- impacting individuals and communities in countless ways, the love she has in heart for the mission of her work is evident and guides her each day. She is kind and compassionate, full of energy and enthusiasm that just bubbles from every ounce of her being. She is genuine, determined to help and takes action to make a difference in the lives of others. Through her actions, high ethics and unique ways of leading people, she inspires others and changes the outcomes of their lives.

Jodie and I met when we were Major Gift Officers at Drake University; we went through new employee training together and immediately became friends. Jodie's love for people and desire to help in times of crisis became evident early in our friendship. I had never known anyone like Jodie, she was always helping someone. A girl that I worked with at the Law School became displaced from her home due to a suddenly violent, abusive spouse. Jodie got in her purse, generously handed me all the cash she had and told me to give it to this girl. Jodie would adopt families at the holidays and need my help picking out the gifts. We would shop and shop, loading carts full. Through her actions she taught me and others that the best philanthropy comes from your heart and being true to yourself.

It was with Jodie's guidance and intervention that I was able to gain awareness and acceptance of the abusive domestic situation I was living in. Jodie helped me take the necessary steps and actions to be safe, escape the abuse and start over. For example, she took me to her credit union. We opened an account for my direct deposit and must have said a million times- "Nothing can be sent to her house- it will put her in danger- it must be sent to the work address." The Credit Union clerk and I still talk about that day and chuckle, as I was in a zombie state and Jodie just took assertive action to make sure everything got set up right. She even gave me a room to sleep in when I had nowhere to go. Through this journey of hell, Jodie has been beside me every step of the way- every court hearing, child custody outcome, ridiculous emails and threats. She's cried with me, laughed with me, encouraged me and given me hope when none was to be found.

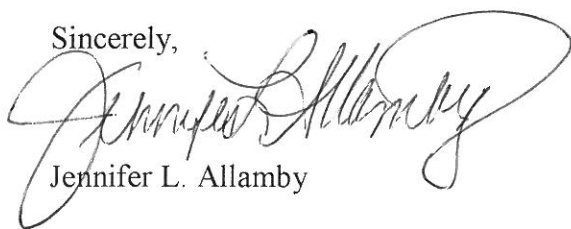
I've watched her career blossom since our time together at Drake. Responding to a heartfelt desire to help the individuals displaced by Hurricane Katrina, Jodie left Drake and as a volunteer with the Red Cross and on crutches none the less, headed off to Louisiana. Her work progressed into raising money for the Red Cross. Whenever there was a major disaster, I would take her and her team bagels and coffee because I knew she would be sleeping on the floor in her office trying to keep up with the flood of calls. The situations were emotionally devastating and she would keep the faith in focusing on how she could change the outcome in those individuals' lives and those communities impacted by this disaster through the donations she would raise to provide them with food, shelter and a sense of security. She has shared amazing stories about being the

first responder to the Tornado in Parkersburg, responding to a fire where she was assigned to save the dog and get it to the vet and the people she has encountered along the way. She inspired me to become a volunteer for the Red Cross and eventually I became a CPR/First Aid Instructor and participated in the Disaster Response Team.

As CPO of the Boys and Girls Club of Central Iowa, Jodie has made great strides to improve the facilities and the safety of the children and staff. She has worked with the Board and staff to set high standards and goals for the organization. She has brought life to the Board and works extremely hard to make sure each board member is engaged, trained and taking action. She has a unique, fun approach to leading people; an example would be her "themed" monthly board meetings. Through the Boys and Girls Clubs she ensures the children (or as she refers to them "My Babies" ) and their families have food, personal care items, gifts for Christmas, school supplies as well as giving them a safe place to go afterschool. The impact and influence the Boys and Girls Clubs have had on these children and their families under Jodie's leadership is immeasurable and long lasting. I have watched the transition of the Clubs over the past 3 years and I am amazed at the challenges Jodie has faced and overcome, the energy she has spread throughout the organization and the positive outcomes that have occurred in the lives of many of her "babies."

I have watched Jodie Warth impact communities and individuals in a meaningful and transformational way through her work at the American Red Cross and the Boys and Girls Clubs of Central Iowa. Jodie Warth has personally impacted my life, positively changing the outcome. Because of Jodie's examples, I have taken people into my home, clothed and sheltered them. I adopt families and elderly individuals at Christmas and make my kids go with me to help shop. I give from my heart to organizations of which I am passionate. I am one of many who has been touched and changed by the generosity, kindness, compassion, and actions of Jodie Warth. She is deserving of being named a 2013 Women of Influence.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jennifer L. Allamby". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "J".

Jennifer L. Allamby