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May 24, 2017

Selection Committee
Women of Influence
c/o Business Record
Des Moines, IA

It is a pleasure to write this letter in support of the nomination for Julie Fidler Dixon.

Ms. Dixon's positive, enthusiastic influence on patients, family members and staff at On With Life is recognized as soon as you walk through the door. Her passion is contagious. But her influence does not stop within the walls of the Ankeny and Glenwood facilities.

Being recognized by your peers, to me, is the highest standard. The Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, CARF International, is an independent, nonprofit accreditor of services in the medical rehabilitation field. Since 2000, Julie has earned a position as an international and domestic evaluator for CARF. Her influence in this role cannot be understated.

Her efforts to assist individuals who have suffered acute brain injuries, and their families, is widely acknowledged. Julie has served as Chair of the Brain Injury Association of America, President of the Iowa Brain Injury Association, and Chair of the Governor's Advisory Council on Brain Injury.

Constantly aware of the special needs of individuals with brain injuries, Julie has also been active in disability rights in Iowa, serving on both the Iowa Mental Health/Disability Commission and the Iowa Legislative Mental Health Re-Design Task Force on Brain Injury.

Because of this service to her profession, Julie has received a number of awards and honors including the National Rehabilitation Association's Lou Ortale National Lecturer award and the JoAnn Kramer Founder's award of the Brain Injury Association of Iowa.

In summary, Julie Fidler Dixon personifies the characteristics recognized by this award: success in her chosen field, community involvement, a lasting impact, and ethical standards. Our community and society has greatly benefited from her work and influence!

Thank you for your consideration.



Art Wittmack