

May 25, 2017

Re: Letter of Recommendation for Pam Schoffner

To Whom It May Concern:

I am honored to write a letter recommendation on behalf of Pam Schoffner. My relationship with Pam continues because of National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO) and HCI Hospice Care Services. Since I met Pam in 2008, I have learned more about her because of her extensive and incredible gift of networking.

After moving from New Jersey back to Iowa, I reestablished my NAWBO membership with the Iowa chapter. Within two years three of us saw that the chapter was losing momentum. I asked Pam, who was influential in the chapter and another peer to initiate a Co-Presidency approach since all of us were too busy and had different areas of expertise that the chapter needed. We rebooted NAWBO with Pam taking on the communication function and we all worked on membership and governance. After one year Pam, through her mentoring and influencing others to further their engagement, encouraged them to take leadership roles with her keeping the newsletter function. She helped help kick-start the Past Presidents' Advisory Board. Over time, Pam's mentoring allowed her to become even more influential to give space for all the roles and functions she had. It takes courage and belief that others can serve in their different and unique way. Pam is exceptional at encouraging, mentoring, and networking to engage new and seasoned members in an organization. She established sustainable processes and touched people at the right time to move them to the next level, which she has done for me. She wants others to excel and she role models excellence herself.

Pam's compassion and respect for gifts others share are characteristics that I continually see her demonstrate. These and living the vision and mission of HCI are evident in what she says, thinks, and does. She is an engaged volunteer, board member, participant in fundraisers, and is a vocal advocate for HCI and Amanda the Panda. I learned how dedicated she is to those on their last journey of life. She influenced me to be a part of HCI and I am now Chair of HCI Hospice Knoxville Advisory Board.

I don't know all that Pam is involved in. Others I met in NAWBO chapters across the USA speak highly of Pam, including the characteristics of integrity, ethics, hard work, creativity, business, and friendship. I think when I consider a woman of influence I consider first the values she demonstrates, how it affects and inspires others to their full potential, and giving others the opportunity to flourish and be the best she can be. To me that is what Pam does. Even as lessens her involvement, her spirit and thoughtfulness are sustainable providing a legacy of creativity, possibility, and enthusiasm.

These are other reasons why I am honored to write a letter of recommendation for Pam Schoffner. She has influenced my work in HCI and NAWBO, and my business. I am a better individual because of her and I have stood on her shoulders many times. She teaches individuals how to have others stand on their shoulders. I believe that is a reason for her to be considered as a Woman of Influence.

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