



May 22, 2018

Business Record
The Depot at 4th
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Des Moines, Iowa 50309

**The Robert D. and
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RE: Women of Influence – Dotty Thurston

Dear Committee Members:

I submit this letter in support of Dotty Thurston as a nominee for the 2018 Women of Influence award.

I have had the fortunate opportunity to know Dotty for over 15 years through our professional efforts and her dedicated community service and philanthropy. In that time I have witnessed Dotty demonstrate dedication and passion to serve others. Dotty's influence and leadership has been demonstrated in her significant community engagement and philanthropic commitment.

I have observed Dotty's significant impact in our community through her active community engagements and have witnessed first-hand how her caring heart and critical-thinking mind can transform an organization that desires to positively impact the lives of others. This has been evidenced by Dotty's long-time advocacy and support of the CHARACTER COUNTS! programming we offer to impact the lives of Iowa youth and families. After many years of sustained support and active review of our research and progress, Dotty was instrumental in a transformational gift that allowed the work of Character Counts In Iowa to transform into The Robert D. and Billie Ray Center at Drake University.

As you review nominations, I would ask that you pay particular attention to her vast community and civic engagement and her significant role as a model for other young women, as well as her ability to leverage community resources to build capacity in other individuals and organizations.

I also want to share with you some attributes regarding Dotty that I believe form the basis of her success to date and provide the foundation for her promising future.

Dotty is a woman of outstanding character. I have observed Dotty as she has demonstrated important principles of life including trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and good citizenship. These are not mere words to Dotty; they are life principles that guide her actions and decisions.

Dotty is a positive role model who works with others to impart her knowledge through leadership opportunities to improve the quality of life in Iowa.

You will assess many fine candidates as you review opportunities for selecting recipients of the 2018 Women of Influence recognition. I firmly believe that you will find no better candidate to honor than Dotty.

I strongly encourage your positive affirmation of Dotty's nomination. Thank you for your consideration and positive review.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Scott Raecker".

J. Scott Raecker
Executive Director