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January 13, 2017

To the Selection Committee:

It is my pleasure to nominate Cy Phillips for the 2017 class of Forty Under 40. The awards honor not just the best and brightest in our community, but those that are making a difference. Cy Phillips is making a difference.

Within the greater Des Moines area, the committee would be hard pressed to find an individual who is more involved or more supporting of our community than Cy Phillips. His level of involvement in numerous civic and community organizations is matched only by the excellence and distinction he has already achieved within his profession.

While his civic accomplishments are significant, it is his efforts to protect children in our community that has me writing to you today. For the past three years, I have served side-by-side with Cy on the Board of Directors of the Youth Emergency Services & Shelter (YESS), the state's largest youth shelter. Children come to YESS at their most vulnerable time and from the most severe circumstances, often with absolutely no safety net beyond the care, concern and excellence of YESS staff. The responsibility of protecting more than 1,000 of these children every year is immense, and Cy's immediate commitment and dedication has been a benefit not only to the YESS organization, but to the foundations of our community.

Even before Cy was asked to join the YESS board, he was making an impact. As a YESS volunteer, Cy played a critical role in helping to fuel the YESS capital campaign, helping to raise more than \$4 million to support an expansion of our facility that has nearly doubled the number of children YESS can serve on a daily basis. Together with his wife Meighan, Cy's efforts have proven to be a powerful force for good in this community.

I could not think of an individual, nor a couple, that are making a greater impact in our community at such a young age than Cy and Meighan Phillips. I humbly ask that you consider Cy as a well-deserved member of the class of 2017.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

Paul Schlueter Executive Vice President Flynn Wright

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