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To Whom It May Concern,

It is my pleasure to provide this letter of recommendation for Aubrey Alvarez for the Des Moines Business Record Forty Under 40 Award.

I originally met Aubrey through the Greater Des Moines Leadership Institute. We were on the same project team, where she showed her qualities as a leader, as well as her compassion for the community through efforts to furnish the new wing of bedrooms at Youth Emergency Services and Shelter.

I have had the extreme fortune to continue working with Aubrey through Eat Greater Des Moines. As a board member, I have witnessed firsthand the passion, dedication and commitment she has to connecting this community to food. Aubrey IS Eat Greater Des Moines. As the executive director and the only staff member, she takes on projects such as food rescue, community gardens, and doubling dollars at farmers markets. SHE made the connections and commitments to expand the double up food bucks program. This program doubles SNAP dollars that can be spent on fresh food at local farmers markets.

Without her, food rescue in Greater Des Moines would not be happening. She has made countless connections, had calls regarding leftover food routed to her cell phone, and even transported rescued food to organizations who can use it. Today this program is expanding, through the use of ChowBank and volunteers, and will continue to grow and be a model for communities across the country.

Aubrey has a unique ability to garner support from people around her. Her passion and commitment are infectious, a true quality of a leader. I am excited about the ways she will continue to influence Greater Des Moines.

Sincerely,

Trina Flack
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