



January 7, 2014

Forty Under 40 Selection Committee
The Depot at Fourth
100 4th St., Des Moines, IA 50309

Dear Selection Committee,

It is my understanding that Bill has been nominated for the 2014 *Business Record Forty Under 40* award. It is also with pride and excitement that I share my personal and professional recommendation for Bill.

Bill and I were introduced through a former colleague of Bill's at Dorsey & Whitney, Jason Hunt. Amanda the Panda (ATP) was focused on expanding our Board of Directors and looking specifically for a strong candidate to step into a legal counsel position on the Board, as well as a chairperson for the Governance and Nomination committee.

Bill joined the ATP Board in 2009 and has played a significant role in transforming our non-profit over the past four years. During this time Bill was instrumental in the coordinating and updating policies (some due to legal requirements in order to retain our 501(c)(3) standing), we raised over \$2M of funding which provided free support services to over 5,000 children and in 2013 we transitioned to our new, stand-alone community based grief center in West Des Moines.

Bill has made other substantial contributions to our community as well. The additional three I would like to note are:

- Partner in the Dorsey & Whitney Law Firm
- Greater Des Moines Leadership Institute Graduate
 - The class project his year was The Children's Miracle League
- President of the Beaverdale Neighborhood Association

Having Bill on the Amanda the Panda Board of Directors has been truly invaluable to me, our staff and the families we serve. This is even more emphasized by sharing one of Bill's personal quotes, *"I can think of few other groups that touch the lives of central Iowans (and beyond) in such profound ways at a time when many of our 'clients' are at a tipping point between hope and despair. A great part of my love for being President of the Beaverdale Neighborhood Association was knowing that the BNA's work improved my neighborhood and thus our city and county. While those impacts were significant (and remain a source of pride), ATP's touch goes broader and deeper because it is, in short, life-changing."*

Thank you for the opportunity to express my whole-hearted recommendation for Bill Miller to be considered for this honor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Charlie Kiesling'.

Charlene "Charlie" Kiesling
Executive Director