

August 25, 2017

Patricia Andres, Executive Director  
People & Stories/Gente y Cuentos  
295 Eggerts Crossing Road  
Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

Dear Dr. Andres,

I am pleased to offer a letter of support for the People & Stories/Gente y Cuentos program "Parents Reading the Family Forward" at the HomeFront Family Campus in Ewing, N.J. Since spring of 2016 we at HomeFront have partnered with People & Stories to offer reading and discussion programs to our clients, many of whom are parents, and we look forward to enhancing this partnership to support parents specifically.

The mission of HomeFront is to help families break the cycle of poverty. We aim to end homelessness in Central New Jersey by harnessing the caring, resources and expertise of the community. We work to give our clients the skills and opportunities to ensure adequate incomes, and we work to increase the availability of adequate, affordable housing. We help homeless families advocate for themselves individually and collectively. For 25 years we have provided emergency housing, housing assistance, children's programs, and services for preventing homelessness. Our Family Campus is a haven of healing and hope for families as they get back on their feet, offering rooms for 38 families, child care, job training, an art studio, and a teaching kitchen. People & Stories is an important component of our literacy-rich environment, where parents become more literate and employable as they earn their high school equivalency diplomas.

The People & Stories program complements our services not only in increasing their literacy skills but also by empowering our clients to speak about decisions they have made and take ownership of their strengths. They enjoy the program, which is a change of pace from the other tasks of their days. They often comment that the program reminds them to slow down, think, and listen, and shows them how to slow down when they read so that they grasp the meaning. The Parents Reading the Family Forward program will enhance these benefits by encouraging parents to apply these skills to reading with their children. I believe that this reading programming will provide important tools in the toolkit we hope parents take with them when they leave the Family Campus.

We look forward to continuing this collaboration.

Sincerely,



Liza Peck  
Support Services Liaison