



**BROADWAY-FILLMORE
NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING SERVICES, INC.**

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November 17, 2022

American Rescue Plan Review Committee
Buffalo City Hall – Room 910
Niagara Square
Buffalo, NY 14202

Re: Brandi Barrett – Loads of Love
61 Laurel Street, Buffalo

Dear Committee Members:

I am writing to express strong support for the application of Brandi Barrett for funding under the American Rescue Plan (ARP) for the development of an eco-friendly laundromat on Buffalo's east side.

In June of 2020, I agreed to serve as a mentor to Brandi when she was selected as a participant in the first class of students in the Community Based Real Estate Development Training (CBREDT) Program. The program was developed by Empire State Development (ESD) and the University at Buffalo Regional Institute (UBRI). During the course Brandi introduced me to her proposed project – the aptly named *Loads of Love*. I was so impressed by Brandi – her vision, her commitment, her skill set, her willingness to learn and grow – that I recruited and hired her in November 2021 to serve as the Commercial District Program Manager for Broadway Fillmore Neighborhood Housing Services.

Over the past year, in addition to her primary work on the Commercial District Program, she has volunteered to work on several other programs and projects, including the marketing and lease-up of our Cigar Factory Apartments project, and the intake/application process for our \$3,000,000 contract under the Buffalo Eastside Home Improvement Program (BEHIP). She is a true team player.

I will continue to work with her to ensure that she receives all of the various types of support she needs to develop her project.

Sincerely,


Stephen Karnath,

Executive Director