

Subject: Letter of Recommendation for the Expansion of Child First Step LLC

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter with deep respect and genuine enthusiasm to recommend the expansion of Child First Step LLC, led by Rosilene Ribeiro, from an expanded-home program into a full-scale child development center. I am a DC Public Schools educator with over 20 years of experience, and I have worked closely with early childhood centers and Pre-K programs throughout the District. I also have two young children of my own, and over the years we've tried several childcare centers—some well-known, some highly recommended. Without hesitation, I can say that Child First Step LLC stands far above the rest.

Ms. Rose provides a level of care, structure, and love that is simply unmatched. Her center is the best, safest, cleanest, and most academically enriching environment we've experienced. The standards she sets for both behavior and learning are incredibly high, but always balanced with warmth, empathy, and a true understanding of child development.

Her team of educators is exceptional—not only are they loving and attentive, but they are highly trained and impressively consistent. I was particularly amazed by how well-staffed the program is. Ms. Rose has gone out of her way to ensure that every child receives focused attention and that no classroom is ever overwhelmed or under-supported. Her leadership is intentional and detail-oriented—she even keeps a daily notebook log for every single infant in her care, something I've rarely, if ever, seen in other programs.

The expansion of Child First Step LLC is not only logical, it is necessary. The quality of this program deserves to be available to more families in our community. It will bring many benefits, including:

Increased Access to High-Quality Care: A larger facility will provide more families with a safe, enriching environment for their children.

Stronger Educational Foundations: A center will allow for a broader range of academic and developmental programming, designed to help children thrive from the start.

Community & Economic Impact: This expansion will create local jobs and strengthen early education infrastructure in our area.

Rosilene Ribeiro is a gifted leader and a passionate advocate for children. Her work already has a tremendous impact, and expanding her reach through a licensed child development center would be a huge asset to the community.

I strongly urge you to support this expansion. Please feel free to contact me directly if you have any questions or would like further insight into my experience with Child First Step LLC.

Sincerely,

Elleni Abebe

DCPS Educator | Parent

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 21450
EXHIBIT NO. 21