

Ruth Rosenthal & Julienne Bautista

CFS Parents

704 Underwood Street NW

Washington, DC 20012

September 28, 2025

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

To Whom It May Concern:

We are writing this letter to **enthusiastically endorse the expansion of Child First Step LLC from an expanded-home program to a full-scale child development center.** We have known Rosilene Ribeiro for eight years. She is a neighbor, a well-loved community member, and most germane here, a third mother to our children. Both of our children (and subsequently three of our nieces and nephews) have grown up under her compassionate, loving, and positive influence. We have directly observed the outstanding quality and beneficial influence provided by her center.

Child First Step LLC has **consistently provided high-quality, nurturing care** in a safe and stimulating environment. When our children entered DCPS pre-k, not only were they prepared academically for the year's rigor having already met all the pre-k 3 standards, but they also shined pro-socially. Rose and her staff at CFS simultaneously nurtured their minds, their dreams, and their hearts. We always recommend Rose and CFS to expectant parents, telling them that she will love and care for their kids as much if not more than they will.

Rose, and CFS, have demonstrated a profound ability to meet the needs of families of all different socioeconomic, religious, and ethnic backgrounds in our community. And to adapt to make sure that each of our children has the foundations they need to thrive, not just as students, but as humans and future pillars of our communities.

The **demand for quality childcare in our area is significant**, and the expansion of Child First Step LLC into a center would be a vital step in addressing this unmet need. This expansion will

allow Child First Step LLC to serve more children, potentially at a higher capacity for learning and development, and will bring the following benefits to our community:

- **Increased Access to High-Quality Care:** The center will provide opportunities for more families to access dependable and enriching early childhood education.
- **Enhanced Program Offerings:** A Child Development Center will allow for a broader range of educational activities, professional staff, and improved resources, further supporting children's growth.
- **Economic Benefits:** The creation of a center will generate local jobs and contribute to the community's economic vitality.

Rosilene Ribeiro's dedication to child development, combined with her strong record, makes her an ideal candidate to lead this expansion. We are confident that the new child development center will be an **invaluable asset to the community**, continuing to provide exceptional care and support to young children and their families.

We strongly urge you to **approve this expansion** and support Child First Step LLC in its growth. We are available to provide further information or answer any questions you may have regarding this recommendation.

Sincerely,

Ruth Rosenthal & Julienne Bautista

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