

Nefatera McQueen
2412 Pomeroy Rd SE #t3
Washington, DC 20020

December 21, 2015

Mr. Anthony Hood
Chairman
D.C. Zoning Commission
441 4th Street NW
Suite 210S
Washington, DC 20001

Re: **Support for Zoning Commission Case No. 13-09 – Commons at Stanton Square – Community Service Center and Residential Project**

Dear Chairman Hood:

As a Ward 8 resident and former long-time employee of Martha's Table, I am pleased to submit this letter of support for the proposed Commons at Stanton Square project.

I first joined Martha's Table in 2006 as a teacher aide in what is known now as the Healthy Connections Program. Encouraged by the quality of the Healthy Start early childhood education center, I also enrolled my daughter in the organization's infant and toddler program. In my many years as an educator and parent at Martha's Table, I developed a keen understanding of its comprehensive programs, which seeks to increase access to education, food, and opportunity for vulnerable populations in the District of Columbia. This work takes many forms. In 2014, I joined Martha's Table's Witnesses to Hunger program, which—through a partnership with Drexel University's Center for Hunger Free Communities—allowed me to develop the skills necessary to advocate on behalf of my family and myself.

In 2015, after eight fulfilling years at Martha's Table, I left to pursue an exciting position with DC Public Schools. I am continuing the path on being an outstanding educator, an opportunity largely made possible through my science degree, experience and growth with Martha's Table. I continue to maintain my relationship with Martha's Table, as a supporter and as an active Witness to Hunger.

As Ward 8 residents who reside around the corner from the proposed location of the Commons project, my daughter and I look forward to welcoming Martha's Table as our new neighbor east of the river.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Nefatera McQueen