

February 8, 2023

To whom it may concern:

It is with great pleasure that we write a letter of support for SPARK. Both Head Start and School Readiness have benefited from partnering with SPARK over the past few years.

Each year, we have been able to collaborate in planning events for both Head Start and School Readiness children and their families. These events have ranged from casual gatherings with open museum play to structured events with meals, stations for learning and parent education. The benefit families receive from our partnership with SPARK is huge because it fosters a love of learning through play.

SPARK has implemented many programs over the years to help make their programming equitable and accessible to all families in our community. In years past, many of the families enrolled in our programs have been able to qualify for free yearly memberships or opportunities to return and play on their own time with a coupon. In addition, SPARK offers "Free First Sundays" where admission is free to all. This allows families to bring their children back to learn and explore after our events have concluded.

Having SPARK in our community is so important because it allows children to play and learn in a safe and fun environment. Research shows that play is essential to learning in the early years. We need to continue to foster opportunities allowing all children a way to feel a part of our community.

We appreciate your consideration of support for SPARK.

Sincerely,



Jillayne Schuder
Head Start Family and Community
Engagement Manager



Amanda Lacey
School Readiness Coordinator