



A TWO-YEAR COLLEGE
CHARTERED IN 1993

Urban College of Boston

Office of the President

December 22, 2010

Mr. Bill McGonagle, Administrator
Boston Housing Authority
52 Chanucy Street
Boston, MA 02111-2375

Dear Mr. McGonagle:

As the President of Urban College of Boston (UCB), I am writing to express Urban College's commitment in support of the Boston Housing Authority (BHA) application to the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development for the Capital Fund Education and Training Community Facilities Program. Since 1993, UCB has provided inner-city residents who might otherwise never go to college a highly supportive environment that integrates a college education with career preparation. UCB has been a part of HUD grants, and most recently received a grant in the fall of 2006 from U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Hispanic-Serving Institutions Assisting Communities (HSIAC) Program to launch the Child Care Economic Opportunity (CCEO) Project, a model of micro-enterprise development focused on supporting new and existing family child care providers in Latino communities in Boston and Lawrence, Massachusetts.

About The Urban College of Boston:

The UCB was established to provide post-secondary educational and professional mobility to members of the urban community who have been traditionally under-served by higher education.

UCB began as the "Urban College Program" at ABCD and received its charter in 1993 from the state's Department of Higher Education to grant associate degrees in Early Childhood Education, Human Services Administration and General Studies. UCB and ABCD work as partners on many community initiatives. The college is an independent 501© 3 organization currently, serving 1200 student s annually.

Urban College and Associated have a long history of working together to help Associated staff obtain their AA degrees and continue their professional development.

Commitment to the adult program learning Facility at Bromley Heath

UCB will utilize the Learning Center at Bromley Heath as an adult program learning facility. We commit to providing various learning opportunities to both employees of Associated and residents of Bromley Heath.

- **Placement Assessments** – will assist in determining appropriate educational path/plan.
- **Transitional Bilingual Program** – The transitional bilingual program is a career pathway for adult learners who speak languages other than English. The program builds on students' first language by offering core courses in their native languages, and providing English language support to gradually transition them into the English program.
- **Early Childhood Education Certificate** – This program has two tracks: infant/toddler and pre-kindergarten.
- **Youth Program Certificate** – UCB will offer courses to the afterschool program teaching and administration staff and assist them in achieving their certificate from the college.
- **Health, Nutrition, and Food Safety Certificate** – Utilizing both the commercial kitchen and “Teaching Kitchen” at the new Learning Center at Bromley Heath, students who successfully complete the curriculum will be eligible for employment in a variety of food service establishments, including child care centers, schools, restaurants, hotels, hospitals.
- **Financial Education Workshops** – UCB will work with Associated, United Way and other partners to develop workshops that support the new center's Family Advocacy and Stabilization program. Specifically, UCB will offer classes in: How to manage day-to-day finance; Insurance/Budgeting; and, Business Plan Development.
- **Home Based Child Care Certificate** – This program promotes successful entrepreneurship by low-income women as family child care providers, increases the supply of child care available in the community, and supports both family and community economic growth.
- **Computer Literacy Certificate** – This program covers the basic business applications of computer and internet technologies. Special applications such as word processing, excel, financial spreadsheets, customer databases, and desktop publishing, web design, business uses of the Internet including advertising, customer communications, billings and reporting will be covered.
- **Degree Programs** – UCB has extensive experience and a demonstrated, quantifiable record in Early Education and will offer through its satellite at Bromley Heath courses that lead directly the **AA in Early Childhood Education** and the **AA in Human Services Administration**.
- **Financial Aid Services** – UCB offers federal, state and college financial aid assistance to students applying to Urban College courses.

The exact number of adult learners we reach at Bromley Heath will depend on the placement assessments, the needs and interests of parents and other resident adults. However, based on our experience, the demand for these courses currently, and the opportunities for employment at the Center itself, we anticipate the following cohorts:

<u>Program</u>	<u>Cohort Size</u>
Transitional Bilingual Program	18
Early Childhood Education*	12
Youth Program*	12
Health, Nutrition, Food Safety*	12
Financial Education Workshops**	36
Home Based Child Care*	15
Computer Literacy*	15
AA Early Childhood Education	15
AA Human Services Administration	12
Total	147

*Certificate Program (pre-requisite plus 5 courses)

**Multiple Workshops (3 cohorts of 12 per year planned)

UCB commits to providing one (1) FTE, working with appropriate staff, to oversee and coordinate all activity at satellite facility.

- o 1 FTE at [REDACTED] salary compensation per year x 5 years = [REDACTED]

UCB evaluation data shows that:

Over 95% of UCB students are working adults and take 5-6 years to complete their two-year degrees. In the past five years, UCB's rate of student retention has been over 70%, with enrollment of new students increasing each year at the rate of 32%. The number of graduates at the College has more than tripled since 2000.

Many students begin their careers as certificate candidates and then matriculate into Associate degree programs. Upon acquiring a degree in Early Childhood Education, Human Services Administration, or General Studies, our students are well prepared for both career advancement and/or transfer to a baccalaureate-granting institution. UCB has articulation agreements with a number of Boston colleges, including Endicott College, Lesley University, Suffolk University, Emerson College, Wheelock College, Springfield College, and UMass/Boston, which allow our graduates to transfer into baccalaureate degree programs with full credit for their work at UCB. Over 100 graduates have completed their Bachelor degrees and more than 10 have attained Masters' degrees.

Urban College is the only two-year college in Boston that offers bilingual Early Childhood Education courses in Spanish/English and Cantonese/English. In 2008, 64% (52 out of 78) of the AA degree candidates in ECE started in the bilingual program; 65% (19 out of 29) of students receiving certificates in ECE were eligible for bilingual ECE certificate because they started their certificate in their native language. A majority of these students started at UCB with bilingual instruction and transitioned into courses in English with intensive, developmental program support.

UCB's *Micro-Enterprise Family Child Care Centers Program* targets current and potential child care providers providing home-based child care that will help them create, stabilize, or expand child care services in high-poverty neighborhoods in Greater Boston area. Initiated through HUD funded project, UCB has graduated 90 family child care providers with this certificate in 2009, majority of whom already matriculated into an AA degree program.

The adult program learning facility at Bromley Heath is in exact alignment with UCB mission in ensuring post-secondary educational and professional mobility to members of the urban community who have been traditionally under-served by higher education. UCB offers its strong support and commitment to the BHA and Associated Early Care and Education to continue providing higher education opportunities and support in the Bromley Heath community.

Sincerely,



Linda Elmonds Turner, Ph.D.

President

Urban College of Boston



Hanna Gebretensae

Interim Academic Dean/Division Chair,

Early Childhood Education

Urban College of Boston

Attachment: Urban College of Boston 2010 Annual Report



Children's Hospital Boston

A teaching affiliate of Harvard Medical School

300 Longwood Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts 02115
617-355-6000
www.childrenshospital.org

January 28, 2011

William McGonagle
Administrator
Boston Housing Authority
52 Chauncy Street
Boston, MA

Dear Mr. McGonagle:

Children's Hospital Boston, (CHB), along with our community-based Martha Eliot Health Center, is enthusiastic about developing a strategic partnership with Associated Early Care and Education (AECE) to address the health, child development of a new Bromley Health Learning Center.

As one of the largest pediatric medical centers in the United States, Children's offers a complete range of health care services for children through 21 years of age. Children's also offers the expertise that comes with being the primary pediatric teaching hospital of Harvard Medical School, at which most of our physicians hold faculty appointments. Since its humble beginnings 40 years ago as a makeshift "well-baby" clinic in a woodworking room serving families of the neighboring Bromley-Health housing development, Children's Martha Eliot Health Center has become a full-service stand-alone comprehensive health center providing pediatric primary care, along with adult, adolescent, OB/GYN, mental health, nutrition, optometry, HIV and early intervention services to families in JP, Mission Hill and other Boston neighborhoods. The Martha Eliot Health Center once occupied the site of the new Bromley Health Learning Center and its current site is immediately adjacent to the Center site.

Children's Hospital Boston and Martha Eliot Health Center are engaged in a long-term partnership planning process with Associated Early Care and Education around:

- Devoting MEHC staff time to coordinating the health, child development and wellness services for the families that would make use of the new Learning Center
- Providing ██████████ per year for seven years to support food and nutrition programming at the Center, including the Healthy Cooking, Healthy Eating classes for parents, and exploring opportunities to tie in Children's other health

and fitness programming in a way that benefits the families served by the Learning Center

- Exploring the possibility of relocating Martha Eliot's Early Intervention Program to the new Learning Center to take advantage of joint programming opportunities with AECE

We are excited about becoming a key partner in creating this unique campus of care and education at Bromley Health. We look forward to a long and effective alliance to ensure that the children and families of Bromley Health -- and all children and families in Boston—are healthy and happy, fully ready for both school and life.

Sincerely,



James Mandell, MD
CEO



Sandra Fenwick
President & COO



SHAREOUR
STRENGTH
NO KID HUNGRY

110 W SQUANTUM ST, SUITE 27
QUINCY, MA 02171

TEL 617 774 1321
FAX 617 774 1327

WWW.STRENGTH.ORG

December 20, 2010

Bill McGonagle, Administrator
Boston Housing Authority
52 Chauncy Street
Boston, MA 02111-2375

Dear Mr. McGonagle,

As the Massachusetts Director of Share Our Strength's Cooking Matters™, a chef, and someone deeply invested in the issues of food insecurity and food access, I am writing to express our commitment in support of the Boston Housing Authorities (BHA) application to the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development for the Capital Fund Education and Training Community Facilities Program. For over seventeen years we have collaborated and partnered with agencies to provide healthy cooking classes to the families in public housing and early education programs located in public housing and **we are eager to expand our programming at the Bromley Heath Center to be developed and managed by Associated Early Care and Education.**

Cooking Matters is a national program that empowers families with the skills, knowledge, and confidence to prepare healthy and affordable meals. We bring together local culinary and nutrition experts and volunteers to lead hands-on courses that give participants the know-how to select tasty and low-cost ingredients, stretch them across multiple meals, and use healthy cooking techniques and recipes that help them provide the best nourishment possible to their families. In order to reach the families who need us most, we rely on successful collaborations with community organizations, **including Associated Early Care and Education, the lead community partner on this project, who will provide the physical class space and recruit appropriate participants.**

- 1) **Cooking Matters commits to providing five courses per year at the new Bromley-Heath Center, reaching more than 50 families annually.**
- 2) **Cooking Matters commits to providing administrative and evaluation support for the courses.**

The total value of these services for the five year partnership is as follows:

5 six-week courses for 8-16 participants at [REDACTED]/course = \$ [REDACTED] x 5 years = [REDACTED]

Share Our Strength's Cooking Matters has conducted multiple internal and external evaluations to demonstrate that these courses have a measurable positive impact of low-income families' eating habits; food safety, food preparation, and food resource management (see our report at http://cookingmatters.org/ar_2010.pdf.) We anticipate having the same quantifiable results in supporting families in this new Center.

Share Our Strength's mission is to surround kids in America with nutritious foods where they live, learn, and play. The Bromley-Heath project directly aligns with this mission; therefore we would like to offer strong support and our commitment to the BHA and Association Early Care and Education to continue teaching families in the Bromley-Heath community how to eat better on a budget.

If I can be of further assistance, please feel free to contact me at amccabe@strength.org or by phone at (617) 774-1323.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alicia McCabe', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Alicia McCabe
Massachusetts Director
Share Our Strength's Cooking Matters™