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John Bel Edwards, Governor
Ava Cates, Secretary

Office of Workforce Development
Louisiana Rehabilitation Services

September 22, 2021

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a District Supervisor with Louisiana Rehabilitation Services (LRS). The mission of LRS is to assist persons with disabilities in their desire to obtain or maintain employment and/or to achieve independence in their community by providing vocational rehabilitation services and by working cooperatively with business and other community services.

I have worked with STARC for over eight years and I cannot recommend them enough. STARC is one of our approved supported employment providers. STARC looks at the whole person and assists with obtaining employment based on the person's interests, abilities, and strengths. STARC works closely with the individual to ensure that the job they assist with is something the person actually wants to do and has the capability of doing. The individuals we work with that use STARC for supported employment services go on to maintain employment for years to come and are very successful. STARC provides follow along services for the life of the job placement and maintains close contact with employers on a monthly basis. This in turn leads to long-term employment for individuals.

STARC is well liked and respected in the St. Tammany community; employers in the area like to work with STARC and are therefore more likely to hire the employees supported by STARC. For these reasons, I feel STARC is very deserving of the grant for their supported employment program.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Maillian, MHS, CRC, LPC