



Andy Tuck, *Chair*
Marva Johnson, *Vice Chair*
Members
Ben Gibson
Tom Grady
Michael Olenick
Joe York

To Whom it May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write this letter of support of the EPIC Foundation of South Florida, who acronym stands for Experienced Professionals Impacting Communities (E.P.I.C.). I became aware of the organization and its mission through a fellow University of Miami Alumnus and Executive Director of the organization, AJ Donaldson, about 2 years ago as we caught up after some time talking about the state of education in our Broward County, the state of Florida, and our nation. The organizations mission of “providing ongoing support for underserved students in an evolving education system”, fell right in line with my profession and platform that I took a special interest in learning more.

Over the past two years, I’ve been able to observe the executive board make moves for students that was nothing short of a miracle for some of the students. I’ve seen AJ and the organization as a whole pay students’ tuition via checks directly to the schools. I’ve watched the social media captures of the surprise awarding of scholarships. I witnessed the delivery of laptops to students in need during this pandemic crisis so that they would have the technology needed to have equity in the pursuit of their education. I even had the privilege to sit and meet the majority of the Board of Directors to hear the direction the want the organization to move in.

There are few organizations in existence like the EPIC Foundation now-a-days. AJ has led the organization to think outside of the box that society has encapsulated the idea of education in for so long. His leadership, as well as the organization’s passion to ensure students that normally are counted as down and out still have a fighting chance, and the organization’s commitment in backing in up financially and with the needed technology to do so are a breath of fresh air in the unequitable realm ok K-12 education and beyond today.

In closing, I fully support the projects and beliefs of the EPIC Foundation of South Florida. I wish AJ and the organization the best as they continue to make an impact in the lives of students across South Florida.

Regards,

Bryan Jones

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