To Whom It May Concern:

The old adage, “It’s tough to find good help these days”, is certainly true in our line of work. Greetings, my name is Jason W. Swanson, and I am currently the Executive Director at Prairie View Senior Living in Tracy, MN. I have been in the Long Term Care Field for nine (9) plus years, working in Independent Living, Assisted Living, Memory Care and Skilled Nursing Facility. The biggest trouble I have had in all these facilities has been the hiring of qualified staff as a Certified Nursing Assistant or Home Health Aide. Besides the issues of hiring staff, then to get them trained for the position, the cost, the travel and so forth has been a terrible burden not only upon the hiring agency, but also and mainly the clientele to which we serve. Two years ago I learned about a program called FastTRAC Health Care Training. FastTRAC is **a training that is created through our Workforce, College, and Adult Education systems to assist individuals in entering needed jobs in our area.**  I have hired individuals off of this program and these have been among my best hires. These employees report to shifts, pick up shifts and are well trained and prepared for these positions. Not only do they have the basic knowledge and certification required, but also the additional training of enhanced math in the context of the health care field, computer skills, employability and soft skill training and a personal financial education class.

As you look at the applications that come across your desk, and you notice a potential employee who has been through this program, I can assure you that you will be getting someone who has taken it upon themselves to go out, get the education and training they need to provide quality of care even before getting a job. This not only shows initiative but also the desire to learn. This motivation and commitment to their training translates into the workplace.

If you are receiving this commendation with an applicant’s application, know this individual will serve you well.

If you should have questions of this program please call the Marshall Adult Education program at 507-537-7046 and talk to Pat Thomas.