To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you in support of the second location of Moving Everest Charter School.

Beauty Salon: Glorious is located down the street from where Moving Everest hopes to open their second location. We are in full support of having them come in to our community. As a company on the west side of Chicago, we strive to be a place that brings life, energy and positivity to the community.

We are a place of beauty and help people create moments for self-care. We believe every aspect of a person is important. Moving Everest finds this important as well. They are a school which not only focuses on academic achievement but also social interactions, character development and the importance of physical movement. Moving Everest would be an asset to our neighborhood.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Beauty Salon: Glorious

1Angellice



To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you in support of the second location of Moving Everest Charter School.

Cricket Wireless is located around the corner from where Moving Everest hopes to have their second location. As a company on the west side of Chicago, we strive to be a place that brings life, energy and positivity to the community.

Though we are not an educational organization, we believe in the power of a quality education. We believe education can transform the lives of individuals and communities. We believe having a school in the area will increase our business revenue as well by increasing foot traffic in our area.

Cricket Wireless is in full support of having Moving Everest open their school in our neighborhood. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

**Cricket Wireless** 



I AM ABLE Center for Family Development 3410 West Roosevelt Road \* Chicago, Illinois 60624 Telephone 773-826-2929 \* Fax 773-826-2966 www.iamablecenter.org

Board of Directors Carolyn L. Vessel MSHSA, M. Div., DD CEO/ President

To Whom It May Concern:

<u>Officers</u> Board Chair **Debra Wesley** Community Outreach Sinai Health Systems Vice-President Sinai Community Institute President

> Vice-Chair Brenda Palms-Barber North Lawndale Employment Network Executive Director

Board Treasurer Vincent Osaghae Osaghae & Associates CPA/Owner

Fundraising Chair Shirley Vessel City of Chicago Department of Buildings Administrative Assistant

Board Member Sherneron Hilliard Family Focus, Inc. Vice President of Early Childhood and Programs

Board Member Clay Wortham Dentons US LLP Senior Managing Associate

> Board Member Kaye Wilson Kaye Wilson, Inc. Consultant

Board Member Dr. Katherine Townsend Adjunct Professor Wright College Social Sciences Department My name is Apostle Dr. Carolyn Vessel. I am the founding pastor of Way of Life Church International, the Executive Director of I AM ABLE Center for Family Development Inc., a member of the founding board of Legacy Charter Schools and founder of the Trauma Response and Intervention Movement (TR<sup>4</sup>IM). Additionally, I am a resident of Austin, as well as a property owner and landlord in the community. Both my professional and personal life are deeply tied to the West Side. I have dedicated myself to serving and supporting my community. It is with this dedication that I highly recommend the expansion of Moving Everest to North Austin.

I am committed to seeing the emotional duress that poverty, instability and violence has caused in our communities and impacted our children come to an end. Therefore, I am compelled to support Moving Everest because they focus on academic rigor while providing much needed character development, social emotional support and wrap around services as part of their partnership with By the Hand Club. Our children need this kind of environment that provides a safe place for learning and growth.

The site Moving Everest has secured, at 1860 N. Leclaire, is a wonderful area to transform into a family environment. It is currently blighted and unused. Opening the school there will bring wonderful resources that will be used by all in the community. Additionally, the site will serve as a community hub given the partnership with the Grace and Peace Community Church and By the Hand Club for Kids.

The leadership of Moving Everest as a clear commitment to the Austin community and to families. I am excited for the expansion and for all the ways this will positively impact our community.

Sincerely,

Carolyn L. Vessel, MSHSA

CEO/President I AM ABLE Center f or Family Development, Inc.

## "Empowering Families, Building Communities"



Office of Innovation and Incubation,

We are writing to you in support of Moving Everest Charter School opening a second location. As a company on the west side of Chicago, we strive to be a place that brings life, energy and positivity to the community. We are located on Laramie and have had many positive interactions with the teachers and families of Moving Everest. We enjoy seeing the children come in for breakfast on their way to school.

We have seen a positive change in the neighborhood since the opening of Moving Everest. Though we are not an educational organization, we believe in the power of a quality education. We are hopeful for the continued change a second campus will bring Austin.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

num himberly Heffner

Dunkin Donuts 782 N Laramie Ave Chicago, IL 60644

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you in support of the second location of Moving Everest Charter School.

EZ Auto Glass stands with Moving Everest as they look to open a school in neighborhood. We work hard to provide exceptional service to our customers. In a community that is often cast aside or seen as lower class than other areas of the city, we want to bring pride to our community.

We believe Moving Everest strives to do the same. They want to pour into our neighborhood through bringing in resources and empower local community members to be leaders and teachers. Their commitment to quality education is important to us because it is through education children that the next generation of community leaders and business owners will come.

Sincerely,

Edillet Ento

Edilberto Emeterio

**EZ Auto Glass** 



Dear Office of Innovation and Incubation,

Fallas Discount Store has been a staple in the community for many years. We provide a home away from home for community members through creating spaces for people to connect. We are a discount store who strives to do more. Unfortunately, we are stepping away from the community and we are hopeful Moving Everest Charter School can fill a piece of our role. We hope they create spaces for people to connect and engage with one another. We have seen the impact of community engagement in our community.

Education is a gift every child should have access too. We believe families deserve a choice of what school they would like to go to. We have gotten to know Moving Everest over the last few months as they have been part of our events. The community is supportive of Moving Everest and they constantly had people stopping at their table.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We hope Moving Everest has the chance to open a school in our area.

Kindly,

om

Fallas Discount Store 4939 W North Ave Chicago, IL 60630



To whom it may concern,

On behalf of GNC, I am writing to you in support of the second location of Moving Everest Charter School.

As a company on the west side of Chicago, we strive to be a place that brings positivity to the community. We work hard to educate consumers on health products for their mind and body. Though we are not an educational organization, we believe in the power of a quality education. We believe education can transform the lives of individuals and communities.

Moving Everest seems to bring that quality education and sense of community investment. Their partnership with the afterschool program is important as well because it will keep youth engaged in productive activities for a longer period of time each day. Our hope is that this will continue to decrease violence in our community.

Thank you for your time,

GNC Josephine Jack Patel

Dear Chicago Public Schools Office of Innovation and Incubation,

I write this letter as an educator, parent, and resident of the Westside of Chicago in support of the expansion of Moving Everest Charter School to North Austin. I have spent the last 10 years working as an educator of diverse learners, as a community organizer, and as a trainer around creating culturally responsive classrooms and working with students who have experienced trauma. I have been in over 200 Chicago Public Schools – and yet I am truly blown away by Moving Everest Charter School.

The safe and positive culture and climate washes over you as you enter. It is a stark sanctuary to the violence laden streets surrounding the school. When walking into Moving Everest the students greet you with joy - it is clear they are happy to be at school. The classrooms are set up in stations with small groups, learning taking place in all corners of the room. The hallways and classrooms are flooded with the purposeful and innocent laughter of children. Kids skip to class. They are building positive memories. As a parent of an infant, this is the kind of childhood I dream my son has. These are the kinds of scenes I see when I visit elementary schools in high income neighborhoods. It is a stark contrast to many low-income schools - where when you walk in there is a feeling of heaviness, staff are yelling at children constantly, and it is clear that behavioral compliance has taken over as the priority – overshadowing the importance of building character and high academic rigor. Moving Everest couldn't be more different. When parents walk in, the staff know their names. There are grandparents, parents, older siblings, and cousins who are at the school volunteering and participating in the education and community of the school. In such a short time of operation, it is clear that Moving Everest has become an intrinsic member of the Austin community.

Academically, the model is exactly what is needed for the future - it is personalized, focused on technology and collaborative. Children sit in small groups or work independently on Ipads or Chromebooks. The adult to child ratio is incredible. The leadership of the school and teachers keep a close eye on individual performance and are constantly adjusting and improving instruction to be most effective for each child. I manage a small team of 6 adults and I can see the skills being taught at Moving Everest as relevant to the workforce – strong character, the ability to communicate, collaborate and use technology – all these skills are clear when entering a classroom at Moving Everest.

Continuum of care is a huge factor when educating at risk children, which is why the partnership with By The Hand Club is an unprecedented asset. The fact that curriculum is aligned between the daytime and after school program is incredible. Additionally, as a parent, not having to think through your child can get safely from school to afterschool is an incredible blessing. By The Hand Club provides meals as well as enrichment activities, they have their own staff so teachers at Moving Everest have support after school and a whole team to collaborate with. A child who attends Moving Everest is literally surrounded by a team that works day and night to ensure his or her success!

Most importantly, from my time working with the leadership at Moving Everest school, I have seen a deep and profound commitment for doing whatever is possible. There is a deep humility and commitment to the mission and vision. There is a sense of possibility and that every child will succeed. The staff at Moving Everest are constantly thinking through how to best serve others rather than themselves. They see the work as a calling not just a job. In opening a second location the desire is to serve more families, to serve more children. To move the mountains that the children of the Westside face and create transformational outcomes. There are few organizations that are as deeply committed and as successful as the leadership orchestrating the partnership between Moving Everest, By the Hand Club and Grace and Peace Church.

The intention of school choice was to give parents a choice, for charter schools to provide something new and special. This is exactly what Moving Everest is doing, they are providing a continuum of care, they are proposing a whole community site on Leclaire in partnership with Grace and Peace Church and By the Hand Club. This expansion is a part of a large bold vision that will impact the entire neighborhood of North Austin. I have full confidence that the team at Moving Everest will come through on this bold vision with great success that will have a lasting impact on the children of Austin, our neighborhood and our city.

Sincerely,

Andraya Yousfi



July 21, 2018

Office of Innovation and Incubation Chicago Public Schools 42 W Madison St Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom it May Concern:

By The Hand Club is deeply committed to walking alongside our children from the time they enroll at the club in kindergarten until they graduate from college and are able to walk independently and successfully on their own.

Since forming our partnership with Moving Everest School in 2013, we are not only able to walk along side our children - now we can move mountains! The barriers that children face towards academic success and preparedness for life after college can be insurmountable to many families across Chicago- specifically in the neighborhood of Austin. By partnering with Moving Everest School (ME), we have created a supportive, stable and caring environment. Parents are thrilled with the continuity of care in the model, 85-90% of the 300+ students at ME utilize By The Hand Club daily.

When examining the options for expansion, we talked to over 80 parents, asked for feedback and ideas for how to improve.

"This school has changed my life, I can drop my daughter off here and know she is being taken care of. She has made so much progress academically. Because of By the Hand Club I've been able to get a job and go to work every day. I love everything about this place" - Parent at Moving Everest and By The Hand Club

"I know my child has difficult behaviors, I know he's a lot, because of this school (Moving Everest) and By The Hand Club he is doing so much better, they understand what sets him off and work with him to improve. My phone used to ring all the time to come get him at his other school because they just couldn't deal with him. I'm amazed and appreciative by how well he's reading and that he now loves school (because of By The Hand afterschool). He gets mad if we miss a day."

We have held true to our commitment to partner with our Chicago Public Schools Neighborhood schools, and have built out an entirely separate club for Moving Everest School. We will replicate the same model at Moving Everest 2.

It is our passion to bring this opportunity to serve more families and we are relentlessly dedicated to make our partnership with Moving Everest a success.

P.O. Box 10043 Chicago, IL 60610 312.305.2622 P 312.274.9570 F www.bythehand.org

Sincerely Donnita Travis

Founder & Executive Director



Full Service Daycare for the Austin, Oak Park and Chicagoland area

July 31, 2018

Dear Chicago Public Schools,

As the Director of Channing's Childcare, I am in full support for the expansion of Moving Everest Charter School. Moving Everest Charter School has been an excellent partner since they opened in 2013 and is a strong asset to our community.

Moving Everest and their partner By the Hand Club bring so much more than a school to the community. At their current location on North Laramie they have brought a wonderful resource by providing meeting space, places for children and families to congregate safely and are working to transform a block that was overrun with negative activity. Since opening they have partnered with us to host trainings and family events. By opening a 2<sup>nd</sup> location they will bring much needed infrastructure and resources to a blighted area of our neighborhood.

Many of the families we serve at Channing's are willing to send their children to schools miles away to selective enrollment or magnet options, pay for private school, or explore school methods such as homeschooling. Moving Everest school provides a great option to bring these families back into the district and neighborhood while providing the choice experience families are seeking. Our families that attend Moving Everest first location love the model being in partnership with By the Hand Club, they have seen their children grow academically, socially and emotionally.

Moving Everest has a strong track record of success serving our student population and as such they have tremendous parent demand! It is without a doubt that when the 2<sup>nd</sup> location opens they will have no problem with enrollment, meeting every child where they are at regardless of family or academic background and being an overall asset to the community.

I support the approval of Moving Everest's second location, I endorse the mission and agree that this school option is a much needed choice for families in our community.

Sincerely,

Roth Kinkle

**Ruth Kimble - Director** 

5701 W. Division Chicago, II 60651 | 0 773.379.7627 | 773.379.7639 | quinlan3@prodigy.net

Chicago Public Schools Office of Innovation and Incubation <u>42 W Madison St</u> <u>Chicago, IL 60602</u>

To the office of innovation and incubation.

My name is Min Haman Gibson. I'm the finance manager for New Life Ministries COGIC for the last fifteen years. We are so excited about Moving Everest School. I am passionate about the expansion of Moving Everest because of their mission, vision and the educational opportunities available for students. With Moving Everest School children will be able to have bright future in fulfill their dreams. Children are our future this school will have an impact on education & on the community which it will be serving.

Children in unprivileged neighborhoods needs to see something positive. When Society have written them off. Especially when the judicial system and the educational system have failed us as people. Moving Everest will make a big difference in our community.

I will like to take the opportunity to thank you in advance for impact our children with a bright future.

Haman Gibson New Life Ministries COGIC Finance manager



## MARSHALL REALTY

5236 W. North Ave. • Chicago, IL 60639 Cell: (312) 719-0244 • Office: (773) 637-2700 • Fax: (773) 637-4067 Email: davidmpacker@hotmail.com

Chicago Public Schools Office of Innovation and Incubation 42 W Madison St Chicago, IL 60602

Office of Innovation and Incubation,

Marshall Realty is writing to you in support of Moving Everest Charter School. We are in support of them opening a second location in the North Austin area. We are in the neighborhood and have a desire for more great organizations to continue to move into the area. We believe their partnership with By the Hand Club for Kids will keep kids our neighborhood safe for longer hours during the day.

We think Moving Everest will inspire and encourage community members. New construction tends to bring new life and vibrancy to the area. The current lot has been vacant for years and we would love to see a value add in its place.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Steven Stypinski STEVEN STYPINSKI

BROKER



1 N. State Street Floor 7-L Chicago, IL 60602

ph 312.521.5287 fax 312.348.1899

Dear Office of Innovation and Incubation,

We at Noble strongly believe in preparing students with the scholarship, discipline, and honor necessary to succeed in college and lead exemplary lives. At our ITW David Speer Campus, we specifically focus on preparing students for college and career in science and technology. We are pleased that Moving Everest Charter School is looking to open a second location in the North Austin community - as it has potential to create a strong K-12<sup>th</sup> continuum of high quality educational outcomes.

In our meetings with Moving Everest, we are open to current and future partnership. Our high school students interned with Moving Everest the summer of 2018 to lead technological programing at the campus on Laramie. The internship was a positive experience for our students, additionally as Moving Everest adds a grade every year we have discussed ways that ITW Speer and other Noble Campuses can become one of the high-quality options Moving Everest students can access upon 8<sup>th</sup> grade education.

The academic model at Moving Everest focuses on personalized learning, character development and partnership. We see these as great assets and will greatly prepare students for success as they transition into any high school in the city. Given this model compliments our focus, we would be open to their students attending any Noble Campus.

We at Noble support the expansion of Moving Everest to the North Austin Community and will support them as they build out their systems.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,

Michael nulke

Michael Milkie Superintendent Noble Charter Schools

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of OW Auto Parts, I am writing to you in support of the second location of Moving Everest Charter School.

At OW Auto Parts, we work hard for our community. We think Moving Everest will do the same. The current land is unutilized. We believe that bringing a school partnered with an afterschool program will be a value add to our community. The more quality organizations come in, the less room there will be for crime and other negative behaviors.

We stand with Moving Everest and their goal to open a school in our neighborhood. We would be glad to be their neighbors.

Sincerely,

OW Auto Parts WILLIAM SANFIAGO



To the Office of Innovation and Incubation Team,

We, the West Austin Community Development Center, are writing in support of Moving Everest Charter School opening a second location. We are a preschool in Austin and have positive interactions with the current Moving Everest campus. Several of our children have graduated from year and moved onto Moving Everest. We love when they come back to pick up younger siblings and tell us what a great job we do

We strive to help children in the beginning years to develop of love of learning and a curiosity to grow. We believe Moving Everest continues to foster that growth as we send children on from our program. The second location would offer more families the choice to participate in this great school.

Thank you for taking time to read our support and we hope you choose to approve the second location.

With gratitude,

Gina Davis West Austin Development Center