



March 23, 2016

Subject: Letter of Support for Play.CLOH.org

Dear Sprout Fund,

It is my pleasure to write a letter of support of the proposal by Play.CLOH.org being submitted to the Sprout Fund by Mark Rauterkus. We feel that the missions of all the organizations align and our collaborative efforts will deeply impact the teens served

Much more than an after-school program, Sarah Heinz House, a Boys & Girls Club, affects each child in a unique and personal way. The club provides children and teens with powerful role models and a safe, fun place to go after school, on weekends and during the summer. It is our honor to help mold these future citizens with educational, artistic, recreational and community service programs. Our goal is to promote healthy lifestyles and offer an environment that is welcoming, nurturing and challenging. We seek to "build good citizens."

We are a charter member of Boys & Girls Clubs of America and have been offering quality youth program since 1901. We incorporate the scope and breadth of national programs and research with local best practices and programs. Members and the community get the best of both worlds by being a part of Sarah Heinz House.

In conclusion, I fully support the efforts of Mark Rauterkus and Play.CLOH.org as they seek funding to support a program designed to use pathways and help area teens earn digital badges. It has been said that it takes a village to raise a child, and I know the collaboration of all the organizations involved in this grant will do just that.

Sincerely,

*Bob Bechtold*

Bob Bechtold

Director of Outreach and Partnerships