February 14, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to express my sincere thanks for the unparalleled partnership of several offices and departments across Oakland University. The entire Teach For America Detroit staff, as well as our nearly 300 teachers working in schools across the city, are incredibly grateful for your support. Your ongoing flexibility and collaboration have made it possible for our corps members to be working relentlessly to improve educational outcomes for students in nearly 80 schools across Detroit.

In 2012, nearly 50,000 recent college graduates and professionals from across the country applied to the Teach For America corps; of those approximately 5,000 were selected to teach in one of 46 high-need regions across the nation. All accepted applicants undergo a rigorous admissions process, engage in hours of pre-service preparation, and participate in an intensive summer training institute before preparing to lead a classroom.

For our Detroit corps members, the transition to a full teaching schedule, a new city, a new school, as well as a full load of certification courses and additional weekly professional development activities is challenging, but ultimately worthwhile as teachers begin to impact students’ lives in positive ways. We realize, however, that in asking our corps members to take on this challenge, we also ask our university partners to make many adjustments as well; please know that this flexibility and support does not go unnoticed.

Collectively, our nearly 300 Detroit corps members are impacting the lives of over 19,000 of the state’s most underserved students. Detroit is also home to over 400 alumni, 125 of whom continue to work in education. The critical work our corps members and alumni are doing to provide every child with the educational opportunities they deserve would not be possible without the commitment of our generous partners: we truly value your dedication and your leadership in the effort to provide all children with equal educational opportunity.

We look forward to our continued partnership.

Sincerely,

Annis Stubbs
Executive Director
Teach For America—Detroit

One day, all children in this nation will have the opportunity to attain an excellent education.