

4 October 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

Recommendation for Masters in Development Scholarship

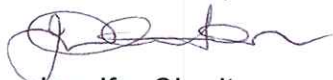
I have worked with Amanda Blankfield on a project called the Youth Citizens Action Project, which has been a collaboration between Afrika Tikken, the organisation she works for; Heartlines and the Department of Basic Education, sponsored by Deutsche Bank. It is a competition that schools enter by completing a values-based project which has a positive impact on their school and community. In its first year, the project was across four of the nine provinces in South Africa. In its second, all nine provinces took part. The schools compete for provincial prize money, then come to a national final, where they compete for a sizeable injection of funds to their school to be used in the furtherance of the project they have started.

Amanda has spearheaded this project for the past two years, and has done so with enthusiasm, passion and energy. Although her academic qualifications and job title are in marketing, Amanda's heart is in development. Her focus has been on whether the competition is making a difference in the lives of the people who have been involved. She has traveled to all parts of South Africa, sometimes at great inconvenience to herself, to ensure that the same standards are applied to all the entrants.

In terms of managing donor finance, Amanda is careful to ensure that the donated money is directed mainly at the recipients, keeping overhead costs to a minimum. To this end, she negotiated special deals on accommodation and kept transport costs as low as possible.

I would highly recommend Amanda Blankfield for a masters in development studies and any scholarships that are available.

Yours faithfully



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