

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to show my support for Techie Youth, and its proposed-goals to increase services provided.

Techie Youth offers career training and guidance/support for foster youth in the sector of computer-technology; they are one of very-few (if any other) organizations that offer this invaluable resource at no-charge to such a severely-underprivileged demographic. Without the assistance of Techie Youth, kids who emancipate from foster care have very low statistical-likelihood of maintaining a long-term job, nonetheless a professional career that provides opportunity for lifelong self-sufficiency. Graduates of the Techie Youth program are prepared to immediately begin working in the IT-sector, and are on a career-path to command a \$55k/annual salary within 3-years, and earning 6-figures in the long-term (average annual wage in the US tech-industry is \$105k/yr.)

In my perspective, supporting Techie Youth is the most-valuable utilization of funds possible, as their lean/efficient operations can successfully serve a large quantity of youth with relatively-little funding, and their approach provides a permanent life-altering fix to correct the epidemic of aged-out foster youth being unable to financially-sustain themselves after leaving foster care.

As an experienced veteran in the technology-sector, I wholeheartedly believe in the mission of Techie Youth, and feel that it is absolutely critical that they get the support needed; in addition to being a life-saving benefit for foster-youth, their stream of students who graduate Techie Youth strengthens the computer-industry workforce, and thus benefits the US economy (7% of US GDP is generated from the tech-sector.)

I respectfully request that you please select Techie Youth as the recipient of this funding opportunity; it is a decision that will pay-back dividends many times over in the form of ensuring successful futures for youth in foster care.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ed Oates". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ed" and last name "Oates" clearly distinguishable.

Edward Oates, Co-Founder of Oracle Corporation