

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to put in a good word for Ja'net Bishop. I have known her for a bit over a year as a fellow member of the Historic Rotary of Charleston. From the moment I met her, I was immediately struck by her positive, energetic demeanor. Even more striking is Ja'net's unwavering authenticity. She is a person who is determined to remain true to that which is highest and best within her – a person who can be trusted to keep her word, to play fair, and to come from deep space of inner knowing and wisdom. Perhaps this transparent goodness comes from her solid connection with God and with spiritual principles. Ja'net goes nowhere without the Creator by her side. It is clear that she is intent on living her life with spiritual purpose and direction. Her interest in various community advocacy programs – for veterans and for underserved segments of the population- reveal her zeal to be of service to others, especially the disempowered, the marginalized, and those struggling for stability of some sort.

Later, Ja'net invited me to a "lunch and learn" session focused on her work as a transition strategist for *Boots to Breakthrough, LLC.* Once again, I was impressed with her resilient, can-do attitude. Her gift, of connecting with the audience in a personal and meaningful way, draws in the listeners and makes them feel comfortable and valued. Ja'net Bishop is a high achiever, but she has managed to maintain her compassion along the way – a rare achievement.

I asked Ja'net to be a speaker for the Clemente graduation on December 13, 2018. Clemente is a free college-level humanities class that is offered at Trident Technical College's Palmer Campus to the underserved in Charleston. Clemente also provides free bus passes, free meals, and free books to all its participants. I am the director of that nonprofit. There were 13 students who were graduating that night, and all thirteen of them were inspired by Ja'net's outstanding speech on how to live a well-balanced life. Many of my students were quietly taking notes as she spoke, and this was on **their** night of recognition.

An investment in Ja'net is more than an investment in a high achiever. It is an investment in the health and well-being of the community at large. Feel free to contact me if you would like to talk further at: 843 795 2247.

Sincerely,

Dr. Mary Ann Kohli Instructor of English /Director of the Charleston Clemente Program Trident Technical College <u>MaryAnn.Kohli@tridenttech.edu</u>