

Dear Promotion Committee,

It is an honor to write this letter of recommendation in support of Drew Mikita for promotion. Having worked alongside Drew in the Department of Human Services,I can confidently say that he embodies the highest standards of teaching, leadership, and community service. Drew's genuine nature, passion for education, and creativity in developing engaging coursework make him an invaluable asset to our department.

Drew has been instrumental in the development of the Human Services Program designing multiple courses and taking on the role of class lead, providing essential resources such as textbook selections, syllabus templates, and portfolio assignments that ensure consistency and academic excellence. His dedication to fostering meaningful learning experiences for students is evident in the quality of the classroom activities and assessments he creates, which are designed to engage students, promote critical thinking and problem solving. Over the past year I have had the privilege of having Drew as a mentor and his support has been nothing short of extraordinary. With a positive attitude and an open mind, Drew has consistently offered guidance and feedback on my own course designs, helping to shape meaningful and effective learning environments. His collaborative spirit and willingness to share his expertise have made him a supportive team player who uplifts both faculty and students alike.

Drew's impact extends well beyond the classroom, as his work in mental health not only benefits the community but also enriches his teaching. His active practice in the field keeps him current with the latest therapeutic approaches and practical insights, allowing him to bring real-world applications into the classroom. This experience enables him to engage students in meaningful discussions on topics like ethical considerations, client care, and mental health practices. His commitment to supporting individuals both in the community and within the academic setting reflects a holistic approach to education—one that is grounded in real-world expertise and a deep understanding of human well-being.

It is without hesitation that I recommend Drew for promotion to a full faculty member. His dedication, professionalism, and passion for both student success and community well-being make him a true embodiment of the values we strive for at Colorado Mountain College. Faculty, staff, and students are fortunate to have someone of his caliber, and I believe he will continue to contribute greatly to the Human Services Department and college as a whole. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Emily Schenk Associate Professor Department of Human Services Colorado Mountain College