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November 2, 2020

RE: SOLICITATION REQUEST FROM CPIC CHAIR FOR COMMUNITY MEMBERSHIP

Parents Engaged in Education is a parent led charity serving Ontario with our school council and parent engagement support and resources. We have moved our training and workshops to a virtual basis and will be offering two sessions a month, one for school councils and one to assist parents in engaging with their children at home to support their learning and mental health.

In addition, we serve children/youth living in poverty in the city of Toronto.

When schools closed in March, Parents Engaged in Education immediately stepped up to support at risk children/youth/parents with our Learn at Home Kits. These kits provide curriculum materials as well as materials and activities to support their mental health like arts and crafts, great books, outside fun (skipping ropes, chalk, balls), mindfulness journaling as well as books on how to calm themselves and be positive.

In total we prepared and distributed through other service agencies more than 2,000 kits including a good number to St. Vincent DePaul and the Catholic Children's Aid Society. A number of TCDSB schools and churches also benefitted. We worked alongside the Toronto COVID-19 task force partnership table to be sure the most needy families received this support.

As well as providing these Learn at Home Kits , we distributed 108 chrome books through our partnership with HP and Grand & Toy. Also, through HP, we provided 57 printers to students or organizations in need.

We are now moving on to establish a Family Service Centre which will feature CANADA'S FIRST EDUCATION BANK. This bank will operate similar to a food bank, except it will provide children/teens the opportunity to secure items to support their learning and their mental health. In addition, the Education Bank will supply self-care hygiene products through a partnership we have established.

To support the Education Bank, we have secured in-kind partnerships with some of the leading educational publishers and supply companies.

Aside from the Education Bank, the Family Service Centre will feature a fully equipped Technology Centre, thanks to a partnership with HP and a Sport and Wellness centre with virtual gaming , yoga and other

sports mentorship opportunities for students and their families through a partnership with one of Toronto's leading sports teams.

As a community member to CPIC, Parents Engaged in Education will be committed to continuing working on strengthening support to encourage parent engagement at home and at school, in helping schools build welcoming and inclusive communities where every child/teen/parent feels they are empowered to work towards successful outcomes. To this end, we are working with other community organizations to improve outcomes for black youth and all BIPOC families.

Parents Engaged in Education is a respectful and inclusive organization and look to only work with other groups who adhere to these same values.

The representative from Parents Engaged in Education would be our President Lisa Landriault, with myself sitting in if necessary.

Our mission when it comes to partnering with other organizations/committees is to DREAM BIG, Because Together We Can Do More!!!

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to hearing back.

Theresa Pastore
Executive Director
Parents Engaged in Education