

July 20, 2022

Chad M. Rieflin  
Director of Programs and Grants  
Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Rochester  
1050 University Ave. Suite A  
Rochester, NY 14607

This letter is to support the application of Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Rochester (CCCS of Rochester) American Rescue Plan Act funding for the Driven2Success program.

SUNY Rochester Educational Opportunity Center (REOC) is one of ten Educational Opportunity Centers located throughout New York State and governed by the University Center for Academic and Workforce Development. REOC is sponsored by the State University of New York's Brockport campus, and delivers comprehensive, community-based academic and workforce development programs and support services to eligible adult learners.

REOC often struggles to help our students solve their unique transportation needs. While public transportation serves as a key resource for job seekers and workers alike, the landscape of employment in our region requires many to obtain personal transportation to fully meet job requirements. We believe that CCCS of Rochester's Driven2Success program provides a crucial strategy to address one of the primary barriers that many low-to-moderate income (LMI) residents in Monroe County face when seeking to grow or stabilize their income.

Through referrals to the Driven2Success program, REOC will enhance the employment outcomes of our students. The program will responsibly connect our students to reliable vehicles and affordable auto loans. The education and counseling that CCCS of Rochester provides also prepares and empowers individuals to purchase and borrow effectively.

We fully support CCCS of Rochester's application to Monroe County for the Driven2Success program to leverage American Rescue Plan Act funding, which will transform REOC and the whole community.

Sincerely,



Roosevelt Mareus, PhD  
Dean/Executive Director, Rochester Educational Opportunity Center