



Jean Childs Young
- Institute For -
Youth Leadership

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KIDS 4 A CHANGE
Georgians For Gun Safety
"FYBY" - FOR YOUTH BY YOUTH

Jean Childs Young
- Institute for -
Youth Leadership
100 Edgewood Avenue, N.E.
Room 1008
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
afccy@bellsouth.net
404-527-7426
Fax: 404-527-7382

February 28, 2006

To Whom It May Concern:

During the past five (5) years, it has been my privilege to work with Ellen Mazer in her capacity as Resource Development Consultant for the Jean Childs Young Institute for Youth Leadership. I am a veteran non-profit board member and have volunteered with the Institute some 10 years.

Recommended to us by Coxie Curry, Ellen developed fundraising plans for the Institute and for a former subsidiary agency, Georgians for Gun Safety. Ellen worked closely with our Executive Director, providing assistance in fine-tuning our annual campaign. Ellen's assistance in creating a draft strategic plan for fundraising highlighted our need to expand the Institute's base of support. It also identified our need to expand our board enhancing its compatibility with the organization's mission of youth participation in governance. During a 14-month period wherein the Institute had no staff, Ellen was a lifesaver, helping volunteers with grant research and writing, as well as with governance. She was instrumental in our receipt of funding from the Atlanta Women's Foundation. We also credit Ellen Mazer with the planning and implementation of the search process that resulted in the hiring of an executive director with whom we are well pleased. During her time with us, Ellen demonstrated a propensity for getting to the heart of the matter at hand and a consistent regard for process. Although we no longer work as closely with Ellen, we continue to consider her part of our team and we have secured an unofficial contract to have her expert participation upon request.

I highly recommend Ellen Mazer to work in any arena wherein there is a requirement for professionalism, understanding of policy, ability to maintain awareness of current issues and changes in societal climate and sensitivity to the needs of people at different levels. She will work well with board and staff members and the general public. Ellen Mazer is a person of integrity and a committed professional. Feel free to contact me for additional information.

Sincerely,

Zenda J. Bowie
(770) 434-5864 ext 213