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To whom it may concern:

It is my pleasure to write this letter of recommendation for Clara Pena.

I have known Clara since the start of the Winter Semester 2023, in my capacity as a professor at Sheridan College.

Clara has been a student in my Field Preparation class, and Professional Practice 1&2 classes, from January 2023 to April 2024. During our courses, students explore core theories of Social Work in the public, private and non-profit sectors, and engage in laboratory activities such as learning and advocating for vulnerable and marginalized individuals, analyzing case studies and simulations, and researching different topics related to mental health, addictions, corrections, homelessness, immigration, education, and crisis intervention.

Throughout the 3 semesters with me, Clara was professional, very engaged, eager to participate in class activities, and always looked for opportunities to learn and grow. She was respectful and empathetic towards her peers and professors. During our class discussions and group work, she took great initiative and leadership roles, completed all her tasks and assignments before the deadline and displayed outstanding interpersonal skills not only by engaging productively, but also, by encouraging her peers positively and by providing invaluable feedback while being culturally sensitive and open-minded. In her assignments, Clara stood out for her advanced critical and thinking skills, for her excellence in communicating clearly and concisely in written and spoken form and for her research skills. She showed a great understanding of many complex social challenges, and a desire to make a change in the world.

After completing the Field Preparation course with high academic achievement, Clara secured practicum with Acor2Oak, an agency that serves youth, young adults, seniors, and families through a wide range of programs geared towards providing solutions, support, and transformed lives. During her 8-month practicum, I continued to be the field liaison for Clara throughout the Fall 2023 and Winter 2024 semesters, and I have been thrilled to observe her grow from a curious and high achieving student to an amazing, dedicated professional with a great passion for social justice, particularly for newcomers and the elderly. Her field supervisor has noted in her feedback that Clara is very resourceful and responsible, brings new ideas and initiatives, connects very well with clients, is reliable, completes her tasks efficiently and on time, has great personality and is a great communicator. Clara is open to new opportunities, has great time management and organizational skills and is eager to learn.

I highly recommend Clara for any job opportunity, and I am confident that she will be a positive addition to any agency that hires her. If you have any questions regarding Clara or this recommendation, do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Behije Noka

