



May 21, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

I am very pleased to take the opportunity to write a letter of recommendation for Susie Vanderlip and her "Legacy of Hope" program. We had the absolute good fortune to have Susie visit our school just this past April during our Alcohol and Drug Awareness Week. We were not quite sure what we had bargained for when we invited Susie to our Catholic institution of 900 young men. We brought our entire student body into our gymnasium for the Legacy of Hope assembly and Susie had our guys captivated from the moment she burst onto the scene.

Her energy, enthusiasm, and passion for the message that she is bringing to all that are present is quite evident. These qualities are her foundation of the presentation, but her delivery of the message is the key to the success of the Legacy of Hope program. Susie Vanderlip is an extremely talented actress that takes on many different characters during this event. Each character has a message for someone out in her audience. She manages to grab the attention of her audience because her characters are striking chords with some element of what these students are going through in everyday life. She truly challenges the students to think about the issues that are facing them and she helps them to realize that they do have options as far as making choices and getting help.

The Legacy of Hope assembly was a powerful event at our school, but the highlights of what Susie can do did not stop there. Immediately after the event Susie began to visit individual classrooms and had a much more intimate communication with her audience. Susie has a knack for getting to the student's level and opening herself up to them in some invaluable question and answer sessions. These sessions flew by and there never seemed to be enough time to get to all of the students concerns.

In closing, without hesitation, I highly recommend Susie Vanderlip and her Legacy of Hope program for your school. If you have any questions about Legacy of Hope please contact me at Saint Patrick High School.

Sincerely,

Saint Patrick High School

**Emmett McGovern
Director of Student Services
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