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To Whom It May Concern:

During the first half of 2008, Allison Sampson facilitated four strategic planning retreats for the Mortimer Levitt Foundation grantees – Levitt Pavilions (national) and two site specific Levitt Pavilions in MacArthur Park and Pasadena. In addition, Allison facilitated a first Board retreat for our grantee Hollywood Arts, an urban drop-in center straddling the edges of both the social service sector needs and the arts enrichment for the benefit of young adults who are either homeless, in transitional situations or recently emancipated from the county foster care system. The Mortimer Levitt Foundation is a dynamic and innovative leader in venture philanthropy. Therefore, our Foundation's projects require a fast-paced balance of intensive entrepreneurial risk taking and planning, with a facilitator who is like-minded and understands our culture.

All four retreats, over a period of six months, benefited from focused advanced planning exercises that resulted in right-on-message agendas. The Boards were fully engaged. Each retreat's independent evaluation process revealed the highest marks in productivity and value to its board and staff as well as to the organizations they serve.

I have recommended Allison for five projects to date and hope that we will continue a long association. Her style of working with the donor, board member and staff, and having them seamlessly team up together, makes retreats inclusive and its participants accountable. Please feel free to contact me should you need any further reference.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Levitt Hirsch

VP Program Development

The Levitt Pavilions for the Performing Arts