



**Extension Regional  
Office, Rochester**

863 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE  
Rochester, MN 55904-4915

PHONE  
(507) 280-2863  
(888) 241-4536

FAX  
(507) 280-2872  
(507) 536-6311

EMAIL  
rrochester@extension.umn.edu

WEB  
www.extension.umn.edu

*Mail received at address above.  
Office located at the  
UCR-Heintz Center,  
1926 College View Road SE*

*Making a difference for*

- *Communities*
- *the Environment*
- *Families*
- *Food and Agriculture*
- *Youth*

To Whom it May Concern:

This letter is in support of ACET Inc. and specifically Stella SiWan Zimmerman. The Extension Center for Youth Development Program Evaluation team contracted Stella to develop a training package around impact reporting in the spring of 2011. Stella impressed our team as we interviewed consultants to deliver on this task because of her style of asking thought provoking questions and her ability to see the end product that would benefit our work. She showed an uncanny ability to assess our needs and build resources to help us train other individuals.

As part of this training, Stella created a toolkit that contained tip sheets, resources, and samples of work. She exhibited strong educational design as the contents were user friendly, built upon each other, and focused on necessary topics. The tools were created with the understanding that they would be used to train more educators in a train-the-trainer model.

Stella also led us through a one day training of the materials. In this phase, she made sure that we were educated on the topic and pushed us to think critically about topics such as outcome development and ways to create meaningful evaluation reports. This information has been incorporated into our practice as we work with teams to conduct evaluations and create evaluation reports.

Since working with Stella, our evaluation team developed a cohort training program on impact reporting. We were able to modify the materials- choosing the most relevant for our colleagues- and have guided over 10 people through an in-depth study of the topic.

Stella is a great individual to work with as she is task-oriented, efficient, and down to earth. She understands the dynamics of working as a team and is skilled at getting input from all parties. Stella has a critical eye for improvement and couches her feedback in tangible steps that can be made by the organization. She is highly effective in her interactions and is a strong advocate for the field of evaluation.

I am pleased to offer my support for ACET Inc and Stella SiWan Zimmerman.

Sincerely,

Samantha Grant  
Extension Educator, Program Evaluation  
University of Minnesota Extension  
Center for Youth Development  
[samgrant@umn.edu](mailto:samgrant@umn.edu)  
507-536-6302