



Promise Academy Charter School



**Harlem Children's
ZONE**

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Kenneth Langone
Chairperson

Geoffrey Canada
President

Mitch Kurz
Treasurer

Stanley Druckenmiller
Arlene Gibson
Denise Nash
Dorlin Reyes
Madeline White
Alfonso Wyatt

Daryl Rock
Superintendent

Tonya White
Elementary School Principal
Promise Academy I
175 West 134th Street
New York, NY 10037
Tel 212.368.3470
Fax 212.368.3621

Dennis McKesey
Middle School Principal
35 West 125th Street
New York, NY 10035
Tel 212.360.3255
Fax 212.289.0661

Marquitta Speller
High School Principal
35 East 125th Street
New York, NY 10035
Tel 212.360.3255
Fax 212.289.0661

Kathleen Fernald
Elementary School Principal
Promise Academy II
2005 Madison Ave
New York, NY 10035
Tel 917.492.1481

December 17, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter on behalf of Michael Jasz, founder and director of The Relationship Foundation, and his recent service to the Harlem Children's Zone Promise Academy Charter High School. I worked with Mr. Jasz as he presented *Healthy Relationships 101* in a series of workshops to my 10th grade seminar classes. His innovative and provocative approach to interpersonal dynamics proved to be a valuable resource that our school can build upon and incorporate into our school culture.

The idea behind *Healthy Relationships 101* is to give students the tools to communicate that allow them to hear each other, respect one another, and discover their own value systems while growing into global citizens. Most of the topics revolved around the concept of Compassionate Communication, an approach that creates empathy, awareness and understanding in a unique and transformative manner. The focus on the many aspects of relationships brought out a refreshing honesty in a good number of the students.

I was very pleased with the outcome of the program and the level of participation from the students. I was also surprised at the degree to which my own views were challenged to change and how quickly my interactions with students took on a different tenor. This program has the potential to be life altering and has definitely changed my life.

If you have any questions about this initiative please feel free to contact me by e-mail or at my direct line below.

Thank you,

Ruqayyah Williams
Harlem Children's Zone Promise Academy
rwilliams@hczpromise.org
212.360.3255