

To whom it may concern:

It is my great pleasure to offer this letter as a recommendation for Paul Marengo. Paul has been involved on many levels with the Cherry Fund since 2006. Paul has been our Board Chairman, Director of Development, Social Media Manager, Webmaster, Volunteer Coordinator, Beneficiary Chair, Box Office Manager, and a VIP Volunteer throughout the 25 year history of The Cherry Fund.

As Board Chairman, Paul managed the organization effectively focusing on both the organization as well as meeting our mission. Paul developed different fundraising opportunities as well as ways to raise needed revenue. As the Director of Development, Paul brought in government funders such as the DC Health Department and the DC Entertainment Office who have already committed to support the organization in 2021. In addition to cash and in-kind sponsors, he increased our community and promotional partnership program to reach multiple media markets around the country.

After leaving the Board Chairmanship, Paul continued to provide assistance where requested and needed. He returned to help in various capacities including managing our websites, box office, and provide social media assistance. He has also continued to strengthen our relationship with all three of our LGBT media outlets here in Washington, DC.

Lastly and most importantly, Paul is committed to the mission of The Cherry Fund. As the Beneficiary Chair, Paul provides the Cherry Fund Board with a well researched and thought out list of beneficiaries. This list of beneficiaries focuses on the under-served and represents a wide and diverse spectrum of organizations. Previously, as Social Media Manager, Paul would focus on the work of our beneficiaries, not only promoting their mission, but their essential work. In addition, Paul used our social media platforms to help spread safe sex and testing messaging in collaboration with the DC Health Department. I believe Paul would be a welcome addition to any organization where he can provide his commitment, out of the box thinking, and laser focus.

Take Care,

Allen Sexton, Board Chairman, The Cherry Fund