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To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to you today with encouragement to consider becoming a sponsor of Taking Kids Outdoors (TKO), a nonprofit organization that I believe is very valuable to the development of the youth in our rural lake community.

I've had the pleasure of knowing TKO Treasurer Lance Johnson for several years now as a family friend and active member of our church, and I can attest to the fact he and his partner TKO President Sam Coffey truly have hearts for helping kids in our community through this organization. Both men have worked hard to round up teams of professionals to help them conduct free summer camps for area youth to learn valuable life skills, such as gun, water and fire safety; trapping, fishing, hunting and archery techniques; and even plant and wildlife identification.

While working alongside the professionals to gain tangible skills and knowledge of all things outdoors, the kids further develop their valuable intangibles such as persistence and patience, abilities to work as teams, and communication and listening skills.

It truly is a blessing to have a group of adults that recognizes this community's need for positive role models and influences in the lives of our community's youth and that wants to ensure that every child, regardless of status/income, has access to the opportunities provided by TKO's programs. However, it is solely by way of sponsorships and donations that this organization can extend such opportunities completely free of charge to its participants.

As a proud Grayson County native and the director of Grayson County Tourism, I can't stress enough the important role TKO plays in shaping the culture of and attitudes towards our rural lake community. Learning to safely enjoy and appreciate the recreational activities available to them is an excellent way to build up confidence and a sense of hometown pride in Grayson County's youth. I couldn't be anymore in favor of Taking Kids Outdoors and its programs.

I strongly encourage you to consider sponsoring Taking Kids Outdoors as it truly is an asset to our community and our youth.

With Sincere Appreciation,

Kenadie Minton

Executive Director, Grayson County Tourism.