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To Whom it May Concern,

I am applying for the position of Adolescent Drug and Alcohol Case Manager at CORA Services. I graduated from Eastern University in May 2018 with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and Criminal Justice. Throughout my time at Eastern, I gained valuable skills both in and outside the classroom. From the summer of 2016 to the spring semester of 2018 I maintained a consistent internship at AlphaCare, a non-profit organization based in West Philadelphia that connects pregnant women to resources throughout the city. During my time at AlphaCare I gained experience in client care and advocacy, working with both social workers and nurses to assist clients in obtaining referrals for housing, education, employment and material resources. Upon graduation, this experience allowed me the opportunity to accept a full-time position with AlphaCare as a professional client advocate, where I now offer social services and advocacy to an entire case load of women seeking AlphaCare's services.

My education at Eastern University and current work history has well-prepared me to engage adolescents struggling with addiction. With a justice-oriented approach, the Sociology and Criminal Justice programs at Eastern have equipped me to apply my studies directly to my passion for serving the most vulnerable, particularly adolescents caught in the holds of substance abuse. In addition, my internship and employment history has granted me a trauma informed approach that would benefit CORA and the youth you serve.

During my time as a Client Advocate I have not only gained practical skills in providing resources and case management to men and women, but I have also had the opportunity to further my knowledge of the field by attending several valuable trainings and certifications. These trainings include the nationally recognized Mental Health First Aid certification, American Bible Society Trauma Healing curriculum, as well as the Overdose Awareness and Reversal certification hosted by Prevention Point. I believe these trainings to be pivotal in my practice within the social service field, and a great potential asset to this position.

Above all, my education, experience, and deep compassion for youth propels my commitment to educate and empower adolescents to overcome the challenges of substance abuse. For this reason, I believe that the Adolescent Drug and Alcohol Case Manager position would be a great fit for me, and the skills, knowledge and passion that I have to offer would make a great addition to the CORA team. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Karissa O'Conner