June 14, 2012

To whom it may concern:

I am delighted to write this reference for Shannon Kelly. As Director of the Office of Workforce Development, I have been overseeing the work of the Cambridge Prevention Coalition (CPC) for the past eighteen months. In that time, I have had the pleasure of seeing the amazing work Shannon has led in her overdose prevention project and the undeniable impact it has had on our community. Shannon’s ability to spread the message of overdose prevention has been successful because of her passion for the work, her ability to inform and inspire community partners, and her consistent and unwavering commitment to the outreach workers she has trained and supervised.

Shannon has also had a tremendous influence on the health and effectiveness of her CPC colleagues and the larger Workforce Development team. She has helped craft a vision and plan for integrating the work of all of our staff, identifying potential collaborations and areas of synergy to strengthen our ability to serve Cambridge residents.

Shannon is a leader whose quiet, but determined style draws people in. She builds a sense of confidence and trust that pushes her colleagues, community partners, and others in leadership positions to stretch their thinking. The awareness of the community regarding overdose prevention has undeniably increased. The capacity of community providers and the police to respond to this issue effectively has evolved. All of this is due to Shannon’s leadership. I recommend her without hesitation.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at 617-349-6258.

Sincerely,

Susan Walsh

Director