



The School District of Philadelphia
Paul Robeson High School for Human Services
4125 Ludlow Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104

Richard M. Gordon IV
Principal

OFFICE: 215-823-8207
FAX: 215-823-8252

November 24, 2021

TO: Whom It May Concern

FROM: Richard M. Gordon IV
2021 NASSP National Principal of the Year
2019 NABSE National Principal of the Year
2017 Education Dive National School Administrator of the Year

RE: Testimonial in Support of "Soldiers for Recovery" Motivational Program by
Suleiman Hassan

As Principal of Paul Robeson High School, it is imperative that our students connect with guests, mentors, and speakers on multiple levels. We require speakers to be funny, serious, inspiring and motivational. Fortunately, Mr. Suleiman Hassan is all those things and more. Mr. Hassan not only engages students but also, he also uses his gritty real-life, real-world experiences that elicits students' empathy whereby they are able to feel his pain and his hope for life. He brought many of our students to tears, he made them see themselves in his anguish, and Mr. Hassan makes students think deeply about their own lives, reminding them to meaning for enjoying life.

I have seen too many speakers get up and share their stories, but none like Mr. Suleiman Hassan. He relishes to interact with our youth and staff about his passion, his passion to save our the lives of our young people. If you can only hire one speaker for your teens, you must hire Mr. Suleiman Hassan and his "Soldiers for Recovery" program. His dedication to what he does is evident and like no other. After he spoke, every kid who participated wanted to speak to him. I cannot thank Mr. Hassan enough for delivering such an amazing and powerful message of hope, recovery, redemption, and love of life.