



Ashland High School

*The mission of Ashland High School is to foster a learning community that will
inspire academic excellence, promote individual achievement, value diversity,
create community, and encourage respect and responsibility
in students, staff, parents and community*

January 20, 2011

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter of support for SANCTUARY ONE in terms of its excellence in providing a valuable educational experience for my students at Ashland High School. My students in the Catalyst Program visited SANCTUARY ONE on January 19th and every single one of them had a wonderful time. In fact, they insisted while climbing on the bus, "We're coming back here!" They learned interesting information about the following topics: local history, building techniques, forestry, straw-bale construction techniques, farming practices, organic gardening and soil improvement, animal care and permaculture. They interacted with the animals and had a great time doing so! The staff was superb! They were knowledgeable, well-organized, and friendly.

The Catalyst students are at-risk of dropping out of high school due to the challenges that they face in their lives: economic hardship, substance abuse, psychological conditions, learning disabilities, transience, homelessness and abuse. Twelve students visited on January 19th and seventeen students visited on January 20th from the AHS Catalyst Program.

I encourage you to support the educational activities of SANCTUARY ONE – and my students would surely agree wholeheartedly!

Sincerely,

Caroline C. Spear, MAT, MBA
Teacher at Ashland High School