

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter to serve as a reference and letter of recommendation for the **Drumming for Your Life Institute** .

The City of Long Beach Multi-Service Center is the City's primary access point for individuals experiencing homelessness. In 2025, the Multi-Service Center served over 45,000 visits from individuals with diverse needs and requests. Many of these visits occur during times of distress or emergency. Because of this, we deeply understand the value of therapeutic response and community building, and we actively utilize art and music as tools to promote healing.

The City of Long Beach Multi-Service Center has been fortunate to partner with the Drumming for Your Life Institute since December 2024. During this time, DFYL partnered with the Department of Mental Health to offer drumming workshops at our center twice per week. Each session has demonstrated strong participant engagement, and we have consistently observed the enjoyment and positive response of participants as they create and share music together. The drumming program provides a sense of consistency and community while offering an engaging and therapeutic activity led by an understanding and empathetic team. The program has been well received and has contributed positively to the overall environment of the Multi-Service Center.

We highly recommend the Drumming for Your Life Institute and its life skills drumming program. The program has demonstrated strong attendance, meaningful engagement, and high participant satisfaction.

Best,

Tyler Ahtonen
Homeless Services Bureau
Site Based Manager – City of Long Beach
Tyler.Ahtonen@longbeach.gov
562.570.4586

