

Robert



Community Options, Inc.

Supporting People with Disabilities since 1989

16 Farber Road, Princeton, NJ 08540
Phone: 609.951.9900 Fax: 609.951.9112

Robert Stack
President/CEO

December 29, 2016

The Honorable Nikki R. Haley
Office of the Governor
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Governor Haley:

Congratulations on your appointment as UN Ambassador! Much has happened in the world since you visited our home in Columbia, and I am writing in regards to events that stir strong feelings and has implications on the important work we both do. When I introduced you to my Chinese wife, you might remember that we were delighted that both you and Nikki have the exact first name.

You are aware of all we've accomplished together at Community Options in the great state of South Carolina to help people with disabilities to live and work in the community. I know that you will be the harbinger of forging American ideas for people with disabilities to work in a civil society paradigm in the international community.

Community Options is an internationally approved USAID NGO, and as I had mentioned to you before, we have the capabilities to implement projects across the globe. Besides in the United States, we have operated programs for people with disabilities in Egypt and have relationships in Russia, China, and South America.

International recognition of human rights for people with disabilities has been low on the lists of priorities for American policy. We know that you will be requested to work with the international community on these issues. As the President and CEO of Community Options, I can say we will work with you in any way you need.

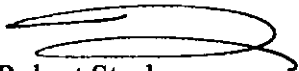
Many parts of the world are unaware of the ADA or laws we have passed to promote dignity and integration for persons with disabilities. Our way of life contributes to the economy by enabling people with disabilities to work, and we have many examples of people with disabilities who have ascended to notable positions in organizations across all sectors and industries with our support. We can improve international perceptions through proven training practices that have improved the lives of people with disabilities across all ethnic backgrounds and throughout the world.

I ask for your advocacy, leverage, and any other support that will enable us to carry out our intentions for developing our international template as a non-traditional NGO. Community Options will serve at your pleasure for anywhere needed. We seek your assistance in forming partnerships and engaging the private sector, civil society institutions, and international organizations such as USAID. We believe our work with USAID makes us the best candidate for implementing effective programs for people with disabilities abroad.

Economic revitalization cannot take place without the full inclusion of people with disabilities, especially if they are seen as people with abilities. We have already given thought to some practical ideas as a starting point for further discussion. We can launch social enterprises, advocacy, job skill training programs, and housing – whenever or wherever you need us. We support you and the United States.

I look forward to hearing from you, hopefully soon. Please accept my wishes for a wonderful New Year.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert Stack', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Robert Stack
President and CEO
Community Options, Inc.