



August 24, 2023

Debra Beavin

Economic Development Representative, Connecticut, Massachusetts & Rhode Island Economic Development Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

900 Market Street Room 602

Philadelphia, PA 19107

Dear Debra:

Local Return is pleased to support the efforts by the City of East Providence to redevelop the Oldham School into a thriving business incubator that includes foods, arts, tech incubation, and community co-working spaces.

Local Return exists to build community wealth in Rhode Island through ownership and investment, particularly in neighborhoods that have experienced historical disinvestment. Our vision is that Rhode Island families and communities control their own economic destinies.

We are beyond excited to see the City of East Providence move forward with this transformative project. Riverside is a proud and historic neighborhood with enormous potential for further revitalization and economic vitality. The economic sectors prioritized by the city are growing in Rhode Island. There is a tremendous need for additional affordable, stable real estate by businesses and community organizations. We also know that the sense of community generated in these types of spaces will benefit the neighborhood as a whole, engaging local entrepreneurs and serving local residents.

Local Return stands ready to assist the City as they move forward with this important project. Please be in touch with any questions. We look forward to working with you!

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jessica David".

Jessica David

President

(401) 575-9717

jessica@localreturn.org