

## **Rusty Whitener**

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(540) 257 - 3540

February 16, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

The purpose of this letter is to give my highest recommendation for Jake Studebaker to be admitted to "Teens Westward Bound." His conscientious spirit and inquisitive mind are perfectly suited to benefit from such an opportunity.

I was privileged to get to know Jake very well when he won a leading role in a movie I wrote based on my novel "Season Of Miracles." Jake was fantastic in the role, but more importantly he was a young man of incredible character and solid convictions, even at that young age. He has continued to seek educational opportunities and to expand his horizons, particularly in the area of serving others. He is intelligent, hard-working, gifted, and yet humble. He puts the interests of others ahead of his own, in a very healthy attitude that endears him to everyone who is privileged to spend time with him or get to know him.

I worked for twelve years as a pastor, and in the past five years or so I have worked acting in feature films and television and writing screenplays and novels. Much of the subject matter of my work deals with youths, with young people seeking to understand themselves and their world better. I have met only a handful of youths with the character and sensitive spirit (and zeal for life!) that match Jake's.

Jake is a builder of community, in that he reaches out to those around him. He is disciplined, prepared, focused, and a person of authentic integrity. You will celebrate the day you accepted this young man to participate in your program.

Please do not hesitate to call me, should you desire.

Sincerely,



Dr. Rusty Whitener  
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