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Connecticut River Coastal Conservation District, Inc.

August 30, 2011

John Hall  
Executive Director  
The Jonah Center for Earth and Art  
PO Box 854  
Middletown, CT 06457

Dear Mr. Hall,

The Connecticut River Coastal Conservation District, Inc. (the District) is pleased to support The Jonah Center's proposed Collective Impact initiative for the City of Middletown. Development of this type of collaborative network would be a positive step toward enhancing the effectiveness of efforts to address environmental concerns that impact the city and environs.

A network such as proposed would provide a structure for stakeholders with differing perspectives, backgrounds, skills and qualifications to work together toward common goals. The District has led or participated in many multi-interest stakeholder groups formed to address a particular natural resource management need, but each has been focused on a specific project with an end-point. The type of model proposed, with a more general, long-term focus on promoting communication and collaboration, has the potential to have a wider impact on multiple facets of the city's environment.

We look forward to participating in the Collective Impact project, and working with The Jonah Center and other community partners to make the project a success.

Sincerely,

Jane L. Brawerman  
Executive Director