



# Lewis-Mason-Thurston Area Agency on Aging

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Area Agency on Aging

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July 16, 2007

National Academy of Certified Care Managers  
PO Box 669  
244 Upton Road  
Colchester, CT 06415-0669

RE: Dan Smerken

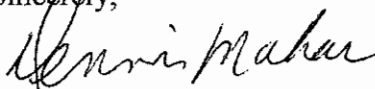
To whom it may concern,

I am writing on behalf of Dan Smerken, who is applying for certification through your academy. I have been the Director of the Lewis-Mason-Thurston Area Agency on Aging in Olympia, Washington for the past 26+ years. I first met Dan Smerken in 1989 when he interned as a Case Manager at the Senior Information and Assistance/Case Management program. Our Area Agency on Aging contracted with that program to serve frail elders in the local community. For 5 years from 1990 through 1995, Dan was a full-time employee of an identical organization in Lewis County as a Senior Case Manager. Senior Case Managers provide comprehensive assessment, service plan development, implementation, and monitoring for frail low-income older adults that are living in the community. Dan was supervised in his professional capacity as a case manager by his own employer, the Providence Centralia Hospital. Additionally, Dan and his colleague's cases and files were reviewed by the AAA's monitors to insure that they complied with State and federal program standards. Dan proved himself to be a very competent and professional case manager.

Dan continued his service to older adults in a variety of settings after leaving the Lewis County case management program; I was equally impressed with his work in these new capacities. I had the opportunity to review his business plan when he consulted with me in 2003 prior to opening his full-time private geriatric care management practice. Dan has been in private practice for 4 years and has continued to provide competent and professional geriatric care management services during this time. He has earned a respected and trusted position in our community and we feel very comfortable referring consumers to him. I am happy to offer my support for Dan's application for accreditation through your Academy. He is an excellent care manager and an important community provider.

Please feel free to contact me if I can provide any additional information. Thank you.

Sincerely,

  
Dennis Mahar

