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Dear Nominating Committee,

It is without hesitation that I support the nomination of **Carine M Nassar, MS, RD, CDCES** for the Board of Directors of the Certification Board for Diabetes Care and Education (CBDCE). I have had the privilege of working with her in various capacities over many years in her position as Program Director of the MedStar Diabetes Institute at MedStar Health. In this position, she provides leadership to the inpatient diabetes glycemic task force and the Diabetes Boot Camp for the entire MedStar Health system, the largest provider of health care in the MidAtlantic Region.

Carine has the necessary skills and experiences to be a highly contributing member of the BOD. She has the subject matter expertise and has functioned in the role of a Certified Diabetes Care and Education Specialist well before the formal recognition of this expanded role. She role models the practice and spirit of a CDCES, regardless of the professional discipline. She coordinates care for multiple people with diabetes in the Diabetes Boot Camp and is a partner with the other members of the multi-disciplinary care team. Her qualification as a subject matter expert are at the highest level. She has presented her work at the American Diabetes Association Scientific Sessions and the Association of Diabetes Care and Education Specialist Annual Program. In addition, she had published her work in peer reviewed journals.

Technical qualifications in diabetes, although critically important, are not the necessary attributes of a Board member. Carine has the experience of navigating and effecting change in a complex health system. She ensures excellence, practices in the spirit of collaboration, and focuses on achieving goals. She is a forward thinker and is able to manage difficult relationships. Although she has not served on a national Board, her successful system experience is highly adaptable to this BOD position.

As a former member of CBCDE BOD and having served as its Chair, I am highly vested in ensuring that we have only the most highly qualified BOD members to position our organization in addressing the expanded need for CDCES. I believe Carine to be the ideal candidate to fill this role and strongly support her candidacy.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joan Bardsley MBA, RN, CDCES, FAAD