



Hello Addison,

I just want to thank you.

During the summer, the staff and myself were able spend time recharging and reflecting on the prior months and past year. In that time of reflection, I was reminded how lucky Aces in Motion is to have the support of the community and beyond that believe and carry our mission. With a feeling of gratitude, I am reaching out and simply saying THANK YOU.

In a world that is experiencing war, poverty and a global pandemic, I know it can feel a bit overwhelming when it comes to finding a meaningful cause and mission to give your time, treasure or talents to. Thank you for choosing AIM. To learn that we have had over 250 supporters, multiple foundations and businesses involved in Aces in Motion since the start of 2021, affirms our commitment to today's most vulnerable youth.

Since 2021, Aces in Motion has been able to turn your support into impact. I want to respect your time by not flooding your email inbox with lengthy messages, but I do want to share one of our most impactful additions of these past couple months. AIM officially welcomed Ms. Aldreka Everett, our [Full Strength](#) Mental Health Counselor, solely dedicated to our organization alongside our partners at Kids Count of Alachua County. The mental wellbeing of our students is vital to helping them develop into healthy adults. UF Alum, Ms. Aldreka, comes to us with a Master's degree in Marriage and Family Therapy, where her passion is working with youth with a special focus on the family system. Her presence in our student's lives helps breakdown barriers to accessible mental health services and destigmatizes what mental health counseling is and looks like. This is a HUGE step forward in our youth development program.

I am so humbled to be leading this organization alongside our board of directors, dedicated staff, students, families and you. Together we are making a difference in the lives of today's youth.

Again, **thank you** for your advocacy, support and love as we continue our work and step into this next school year with hope and energy.

Sincerely,

Addison Staples

*Executive Director*

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Gainesville Area Community Tennis Association | PO Box 357492, Gainesville, FL 32635

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