

COUNTY OF EL DORADO

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Don Ashton, M.P.A.
Director

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September 15, 2015

Ms. Terri Stratton, CEO
El Dorado County Community Health Center
4327 Golden Center Drive
Placerville, CA 95667

RE: Fiscal Year 2016 Substance Abuse Service Expansion FOA HRSA-16-074, Health Resource and Services Administration

Dear Ms. Stratton:

On behalf of the County of El Dorado Health and Human Services Agency, I wish to express my support for the El Dorado County Community Health Center's Substance Abuse Service Expansion grant proposal to increase access to substance abuse services and increase the number of health centers with integrated primary care and behavioral health models of care with substance abuse treatment.

According to our 2014 published report, "Healthy El Dorado County," the substance abuse rates per 10,000 in El Dorado County is 442.3 compared to the California average of 232.0. The number of substance abuse hospitalizations per 1,000 pregnant females in the County is 41.5 compared to the state average of 14.2. Finally, the percentage of teens who have tried an illegal substance in the County is 35.3% compared to the state average of 13.7%. These numbers indicate a need exists within El Dorado County for substance abuse services.

El Dorado County Community Health Center and County of El Dorado have a long-standing relationship of working effectively together to respond to the needs of the low-income, uninsured and underinsured populations by collaborating on mental health, public health, and social services issues.

We offer our support and wish you success in your grant proposal for Substance Abuse Service Expansion funding.

Sincerely,

Don Ashton, M.P.A.
Director,
Health and Human Services Agency