



HEALTH SERVICES DEPARTMENT

PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION

Healthy People Living in Healthy Communities throughout El Dorado County

Neda West, Director / Olivia C. Kasirye, MD, MS, Public Health Officer
931 Spring Street, Placerville, CA 95667 (530) 621-6156 / Fax (530) 626-4713

February 15, 2011

CMSP Governing Board
1451 River Park Drive, Suite 222
Sacramento, CA 95815
ATTN: RFP Response

Re: Support for El Dorado County Community Health Center Proposal

Dear Governing Board:

On behalf of the County of El Dorado Health Services Department (“Department”) Public Health and Mental Health Divisions, I wish to express strong support for the El Dorado County Community Health Center’s (“Center”) application for a CMSP Local Health Connections Pilot Project Implementation grant.

Many people in the County have been significantly impacted by the current economic downturn. There is a critical need to address homelessness within our community and a need to provide adequate health care for the homeless population. Reduced public services have impacted the homeless population’s access to needed health care services; this project would establish a system of health care coordination, establishing access and linkages to available basic health care and disease management services for homeless people. We are very pleased that the Center’s proposal includes much-needed post-discharge respite housing for homeless patients recently discharged from medical facilities.

The Center is an active health partner in our community’s Access El Dorado (ACCEL) Initiative, a County-wide collaborative seeking to create a healthier community, especially within our vulnerable populations. Members of this Department, as partners in the ACCEL Initiative, participated in the planning for the Center’s proposal. Should the grant be awarded to the Center, the Department intends to work closely with the Center’s leadership to promote implementation of local-level care management, continuity of care, linkages to available services, advocacy and outreach.

Sincerely,

Neda West, Director
Health Services Department