



**LATE DISTRIBUTION RCVD 6-4-2021
BOS 6-8-2021**

May 20, 2021

Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors,

The El Dorado Opportunity Knocks Continuum of Care (EDOK) applauds your recent decision to apply for the Community Development Block Grant COVID 19 (CDBG-CV) Rounds 1-3 to provide funding for acquiring a property that will provide transitional housing for individuals experiencing homelessness in collaboration with the city of Placerville. This is a unique opportunity to work towards EDOK's commitment to ending homelessness in our community. Thank you for your efforts and those of your staff at the Health and Human Services Administration (HHSA) to make this happen.

EDOK would also like to acknowledge the hard work of County Staff: especially those in HI-SA, over the last 15 months in the time of the COVID-19 pandemic. Efforts by the Board of Supervisors and HI-SA are impressive and have led to real results in protecting medically vulnerable individuals experiencing homelessness from contracting COVID-19, as well as providing temporary shelter, case management, and access to permanent housing to many of those most vulnerable members of our community. In the recent hiring of positions at HHSA we already have seen improvements in our local systems and more sustainability for the programs that have been established.

Our members would like to encourage the Board of Supervisors to continue your efforts to support the homeless system of care in El Dorado County. As you know, federal funding through the American Rescue Plan will become available to our county very soon. There will be many deserving groups in our community who will pursue these funds. We would ask the Board to reserve funding from the American Rescue Plan to address homelessness and housing, since some funding could be utilized for additional acquisitions such as homes or other properties.

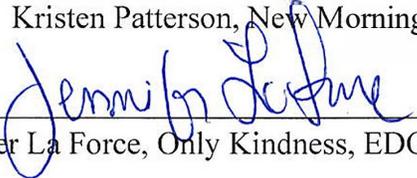
As EDOK completes our Strategic Plan to address homelessness in 2021, we will be able to collaborate with El Dorado County to actually accomplish the strategies and implementation steps that are established. The primary goals for the plan were established during pre-COVID planning. These included expanding safe, low barrier temporary housing options countywide and creating adequate permanent supportive housing opportunities to help accomplish the plan's vision that all individuals and families in El Dorado County have equal access to community

resources and safe affordable housing. By using American Rescue Plan funds, you can help collaborate with the breadth of stakeholders in the Continuum of Care to help make those goals and that vision a reality.

Thank you very much for your work, especially during this difficult year throughout the pandemic. We look forward to continuing to work with you to help improve the lives of your constituents and appreciate the difficult task you have in making resource allocation decisions. Please let us know how and when we can support you as you consider opportunities to support those facing economic and housing insecurity and homelessness.

Signed on behalf of EDOK CoC Board Members,

Dr. Marissa Muscat, Barton Hospital, EDOK Co-Chair
Michael Boyd, County Probation, EDOK Co-Chair
Margaret Lewis, El Dorado County Office of Education, EDOK Vice Chair
Pam Maxwell, US Bank, EDOK Treasurer
Jeanne Rene Evans, Sustainability Outreach Services, EDOK Board Member Alternate
Charles McDonald, Upper Room, EDOK Board Member
Chase Jarvin, Tahoe Prosperity Center, EDOK Board Member
Cheyanne Lane, Tahoe Youth & Family Services, EDOK Board Member
Ron Sachs, Job's Shelters of the Sierra, EDOK Board Member
Kristen Patterson, New Morning Youth & Family Services EDOK Board Member



Jennifer La Force, Only Kindness, EDOK Secretary