

COUNTY OF EL DORADO

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Don Ashton, M.P.A.
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March 25, 2014

Terri Stratton, Chief Executive Officer
El Dorado County Community Health Center
4327 Golden Center Drive
Placerville, CA 95667

Re: Mental Health Service Expansion – Behavioral Health Integration HRSA-14-110
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 support for the El Dorado County Community Health Center's Mental Health Service Expansion - Behavioral Health Integration grant proposal to increase access to behavioral health services and increase the number of health centers with integrated primary care and behavioral health models of care.

According to www.countyhealthrankings.org, the number of mental health providers in El Dorado County is 2,353:1 compared to the California average of 1,829:1. The rate of excessive drinking in El Dorado County is 19% which exceeds the state average of 17% and national benchmark of 7%. These numbers indicate a need exists within the County for behavioral health services.

El Dorado Community Health Center and the Health and Human Services Agency 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 Mental Health Service Expansion - Behavioral Health Integration funding.

Sincerely,

Don Ashton, M.P.A.
Director