February 15, 2011

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

Director

To Whom It May Concern:

The El Dorado County Department of Human Services strongly supports the El Dorado County Community Health Center's application for a CMSP Local Health Connections Pilot Project implementation grant.

Homelessness is a growing and critical issue in El Dorado County. One of the key issues we are coping with is the need for adequate health care of homeless people. Despite serious budget shortages which have caused the County to drastically reduce public services to mandated funding levels, the Department of Human Services continues to provide what resources it has to aid community efforts to serve homeless people's needs.

This project, which will establish a system of care coordination, linkages to enabling services and disease management, is exactly what the County needs to ensure a basic level of health care for the homeless. We are particularly excited by the prospect of being able to provide post-discharge respite housing to homeless patients.

As Department Director, I directly participated in the planning committee for this proposal and our HCED staff coordinated with the proposal developers by including questions about healthcare on our January 2011 survey of homeless people.

If the grant is awarded, this Department will continue working closely with the program's leadership to implement local-level care management, continuity of care, linkages to enabling services, disease management, and, disability advocacy and outreach.

Sincerely,

Daniel Nielson Director