COUNTY OF EL DORADO

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

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September 19, 2018

State of California
Health and Human Services Agency
Department of Health Care Services
Managed Care Quality and Monitoring Division
PO Box 997413, MS 4400
Sacramento, CA 95899-7413

Attn: HMIOT@dhcs.ca.gov

RE: Application for One-time Funding – Homeless Mentally III Outreach and Treatment Program

By way of submitting this letter and an accompanying resolution from the Board of Supervisors of El Dorado County, the Health and Human Services Agency is formally expressing interest in the funding allocated to El Dorado County in the Homeless Mentally Ill Outreach and Treatment Program funding announcement released by the Department of Health Care Services on July 31, 2018. On September 18, 2018, the Board of Supervisors of El Dorado County designated the Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) as the Primary Contact for the County, as required by the funding announcement.

As the County's leading public health and social services agency, HHSA houses multiple divisions through which mentally ill and homeless populations currently receive services and assistance. HHSA's Behavioral Health Division provides active and on-going support to the Sheriff's Homeless Outreach Team (HOT), and also pairs a Mental Health Clinician with a Deputy as a part of the Psychiatric Emergency Response Team (PERT). Together, these teams comprise the first line of contact for the mentally ill homeless population throughout the County. Both teams also closely collaborate with local, community based organizations (Tahoe Coalition for the Homeless and Only Kindness), which serve homeless individuals in the County.

HHSA intends to work with the HOT and PERT, with help from our community partners, to identify homeless individuals with Severe Mental Illness, who are in need of

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Transforming Lives and Improving Futures

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urgent/emergency interventions that will assist in stabilizing these individuals. It is anticipated stabilizing activities will include but are not limited to:

- Paying for housing deposits;
- Providing for temporary living costs;
- Accessing transportation services; and
- Other directly related costs necessary to stabilize a qualified individual's living conditions.

Clients will be able to access these services using a model with proven success already in place in the County, which utilizes Mental Health Services Act funding. HHSA proposes to expand on the existent model. In the new model, individuals will be identified by HOT/PERT Team members as being both SMI and being homeless or at risk of homelessness, and then team members or community partners will help the individuals complete an application documenting the individual's needs. Doing so will ensure all funding provided through this allocation is tracked independently, and all activities/services are recorded in order to meet reporting requirements.

The County of El Dorado looks forward to using this opportunity to support on-going efforts assisting the citizens of El Dorado County; HHSA is eager to report the successes made possible because of this program. We appreciate your consideration in this application process. Please contact me with any questions you may have.

Thank you,

Patricia Charles-Heathers, Ph.D., M.P.A. Director Health and Human Services Agency