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Public Comment #20 County of El Dorado Clerk of the Board <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Box RCVD 10/25/21

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## Comments for BOS meeting 10/26/21

Karen Houser <karenhouser6@gmail.com>

To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Cc: Karen Houser <karenhouser6@gmail.com>, Encompass Youth <Encompass4Youth@gmail.com>

Please accept the attached letter of comments/support regarding Agenda Item #21-1328 that has been continued to the November 2, 2021 meeting.

Thank you

Karen Houser

Grant-writer, Non-profit Consultant karenhouser6@gmail.com Cell: (530)-318-8756



Karen Houser 890 Roger Ave. South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

October 24, 2021

El Dorado County Board of Supervisors 330 Fair Ln. Placerville, CA 95667

Re: October 26, 2021 BOS Meeting, Item #21-1328

Dear El Dorado County Supervisors:

I am submitting this letter in support of the need in our county and communities to best serve our youth, in particular, those involved in the Juvenile Justice System. As a South Lake Tahoe resident since 1972, and currently a volunteer at the Juvenile Treatment Center, I am proud of the investment in recent years our county leadership has made, to ensure these young people, who are some of our most vulnerable, at-risk, and marginalized youth, have the services and support they need to transition successfully to adulthood.

We are at a pivotal point for the future:

- 1. The construction of the new Placerville Juvenile Hall project will provide modernization to support reduced recidivism, but more importantly, support healthier outcomes by matching infrastructure with department practices.
- 2. The new facility will provide an opportunity to consider the needs of youth for the next 30 years.
- 3. While South Lake Tahoe Youth are currently served locally at the SLT Juvenile Treatment Center, placement at a Placerville facility will take them out of the area, upsetting their local connections, even temporarily. Continued services for these South Lake Tahoe Youth, at some level, for short term stays in their community needs to be considered.
- 4. Treating our youth locally under the values, philosophies and programs of El Dorado County professionals and volunteers is paramount. We can't outsource our values to another jurisdiction.

I urge you to continue to move forward with the Placerville Juvenile Hall project.

Sincerely,

Yaren Houser

Karen Houser