



Court Boice, Commissioner

April 8, 2019

94235 Moore Street, Ste. 122
Gold Beach, OR 97444

Ph.: (541) 247.3229, 541-661-6150

Ms. Linda Maxon, Executive Director
Coast Community Health Center

RE: New Access Point Application Announcement Number: HRSA-19-080 -- Letter of Support
Bandon Community Health Center (dba Coast Community Health Center)

Dear Ms. Maxon;

First, may I congratulate you and your wonderful staff again on the success in long-term investments which are now building an integrated primary care facility in Port Orford, well representing your commitment to Southwest Oregon. As a Life time Oregonian, Curry Resident, and County Commissioner it truly gives me great pleasure and is an honor to proudly pledge support to your Coast Community Health Center (CCHC) organization for their New Access Point Application, authorized under section 330 of the Public Health Service Act.

Port Orford has long been affected by intermittent and fragmented primary care services which offer limited or no charity care. Of course, I'm a bit bias, but I submit that no group of Community residents are more dedicated to helping their fellow Citizens than the people in our North County, yet is arguably the most forgotten City on the entire Oregon Coast.

I offer that in the last 10 years, no County of the 36 in Oregon has been hit as hard as Curry County. The 2011 Tsunami, 2015 Sink Hole, 2017 Chetco Bar Fire, 2018 Klondike Catastrophic Fires, 2019 Curry Highway 101 collapse, finally and as I write; we are experiencing 20-year record flooding resulting in massive road and other infrastructure damage. Our citizens could certainly use some good news and this grant award would be the best news! Coast Community Health Care has been providing comprehensive primary health care to the region's most medically fragile, and you have demonstrated that you're a vital resource for directly addressing the needs of low-income, disenfranchised, under insured, and even homeless in this region.

New Access Point (NAP) funding will provide to (CCHC) and our North County residents needed resources for our community which has long lacked investment in our Health Care and citizen wellbeing. We all need to be reminded our high suicide rate compared to the rest of Oregon. This is simply UNACCEPTABLE! We ask without hesitation for your help in establishing continued stable primary care services combined with mental health substance abuse services to support all ages of patients. It is a crucial need and of immeasurable value in this most isolated community. Certainly, I'm aware the CCHC works closely with Waterfall Community Health Center, the other Federally Funded Health Center on the Oregon Coast as the two major Safety Net Providers to the area's disadvantaged populations. We have no (FQHC) medical site in Curry County, therefore CCHC's expansion in this area which you are already serving is natural growth for us to receive this much-needed new site. So important for our citizens, it will address the health disparities, while finally improving local health outcomes.

Curry County's statistics are not pleasant to visit, however it's important to responsibly identify; over one-third of our people live at or below the 200% Federal Poverty Level combined with the high rates of homelessness including Veterans, Seniors and School District Families, all needing the benefit your services bring. I support CCHC's plans in developing the new facility in expanding the quality of work you've demonstrated since 2009, and I encourage the Health Services Resource Administration to look most favorably on your application for funding under the New Access Point Application Announcement Number: HRSA-19-080.

Thank You,

Court Boice
Curry County Oregon Commissioner