



Board of County Commissioners

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Dear Office of Behavioral Health Application Review Team,

This letter serves to acknowledge and support Eagle Valley Behavioral Health (EVBH) as they seek designation and licensure as a Community Mental Health Center (CMHC).

Over the past decade, Eagle County has faced a behavioral health crisis. Specifically, our community has a behavioral health provider shortage, reduced access to affordable care, lack of preventative behavioral health services, lack of tiered levels of intervention services, high levels of substance abuse and addiction, and elevated rates of suicide. Our community is in need of behavioral health transformation.

We acknowledge that EVBH is currently serving all functions of a Community Mental Health Center (CMHC) in Eagle County. EVBH serves to coordinate, develop, enhance, fund, and oversee all behavioral health services in Eagle County spanning the following areas of service required by a CMHC: Education/Consultation, Prevention/Early Identification, Outpatient Services including those delivered in integrated care sites, Intensive Outpatient Services, Crisis, and Emergency Services, and Inpatient care through collaborative partnership. EVBH has developed programming to ensure all community members have access to comprehensive behavioral health services, including those who are underinsured, uninsured, and those covered by Medicaid, Medicare, and commercial insurance.

EVBH meets the statutory definition of a Community Mental Health Center established in C.R.S 27-66-101, which clearly states that those organizations who meet the requirements of a Community Mental Health Center should be designated by the Office of Behavioral Health as such. Further, the services established by EVBH not only benefit the community of Eagle County, but the entire rural resort region.

Eagle County understands the importance of EVBH's application as a CMHC to seek designation and licensure from the Office of Behavioral Health and we hope the approval of this application is one step forward toward transforming behavioral health for our entire region.

Sincerely,

Matt Scherr
Chair

Jeanne McQueeney
Commissioner

Kathy Chandler-Henry
Commissioner