



JENNIFER KENT
DIRECTOR

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
Department of Health Care Services



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

August 6, 2015

Dear Stakeholders:

The California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is pleased to announce that on August 5, 2015, we successfully submitted an application for Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA's) Planning Grant for Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHs). We would like to convey our sincere appreciation to each of you who participated in the June 25, 2015, and June 29, 2015, partner/stakeholder meetings, as well as to those who took the time to provide DHCS with your feedback on the DRAFT CCBHC Planning Grant application.

DHCS incorporated feedback into the grant application that was in accordance with the technical assistance that we were fortunate to receive from the National Council for Behavioral Health and Advocates for Human Potential, Inc., as these entities provided guidance to help California produce a competitive application. Much of the feedback the Department received from stakeholders was in alignment with that which was provided through the technical assistance process, which centered primarily on care coordination, also referred to as the "linchpin of CCBHCs." After reviewing the revised responses to the CCBHC Planning Grant questions, which were submitted to SAMHSA, DHCS' technical assistance expert liaison expressed that California has produced "a very competitive application."

Some stakeholders provided additional feedback that was relevant to the CCBHC Planning Phase. Although this feedback was not incorporated into this grant application as the focus was on the "plan for the plan" (and SAMHSA allowed no more than 30 pages to be submitted for all 24 questions), DHCS will retain and use it to inform the CCBHC Planning Phase should California be awarded the planning grant.

DHCS is hopeful that California will be provided an opportunity to develop and, ultimately, implement CCBHCs. If awarded the planning grant, we look forward to your continued participation. As such, we will be certain to keep you updated as we learn more.

Sincerely,

Originally signed by

Jennifer Kent
Director