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January 3, 2017

Dr. Richard Hudspeth
Chief Executive Officer/Chief Medical Officer
P.O. Box 5151
Hendersonville, NC 28793

Dear Dr. Hudspeth,

On behalf of Haywood County, I am writing this letter to support Blue Ridge Community Health Services (BRCHS) application to the Bureau of Primary Health Care addressing the primary care needs of Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Service Area – HRSA-17-055.

BRCHS' commitment to serving the region's most vulnerable has made them a strong partner with a mutual goal of achieving a healthier Haywood County. Since opening the Haywood Health Center in June 2016, they have already provided care for over 1,000 individuals. Patients of all ages are provided with preventive care, behavioral health, case management and outreach services. In addition, we work collaboratively with BRCHS to ensure access to dental services by accepting referrals from BRCHS at our dental center for those who are in need of dental services. Services are provided at a discount for those patients who are low-income and uninsured.

As was communicated in the attached letters from February 2016, we remain committed to working closely with BRCHS on an ongoing basis to serve HRSA Service Area-HRSA-17-055, especially in Haywood County as we attempt to fill the gap for those of our citizens not served by other medical and behavioral health providers. Please contact the Haywood County Manager, Ira Dove, at (828-452-6625) or (ido@haywoodnc.net) if additional information is needed.

Sincerely,

J.W. "Kirk" Kirkpatrick, III, Chairman
Haywood County Board of Commissioners