



## NEW HEALTH PROGRAMS ASSOCIATION

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Health Care Authority,

I am writing on behalf of the Washington Association of Community and Migrant Health Centers (WACMHC) to support their Health Transformation Project proposal submission **“Provider trainings in the Primary Care Behavioral Health (PCBH) model for use in the Patient Centered Medical Home setting”**.

While NEW Health Programs Association has been providing behavioral health services for 1 year, training staff in the PCBH model is critical to support the transformation of health care. NEW Health Programs Association currently has 17 providers and plans to hire 2 providers in the coming year. This training of incoming and existing providers will be essential to ensure effective team-based care and subsequent care coordination.

WACMHC represents 26 federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) throughout Washington State. As an association, they are well aware of the workforce challenges FQHCs experience in attracting and retaining behavioral health providers who are adequately trained to serve in underserved areas and to lead Washington State in care delivery transformation as part of an integrated health care team.

This project template was submitted to HCA as part of the Medicaid Transformation initiative. Training providers to follow the PCBH model will result in the fulfillment of the Transformation project domains: health systems capacity building, care delivery redesign, population health improvement.

The support of this proposal will be result in effective training of all clinical providers, a critical component to support behavioral health integration across Washington State.

Sincerely,

Desiree L. Sweeney, CEO  
NEW Health Programs Association