



ROCKINGHAM COUNTY

GOVERNMENTAL CENTER

County Manager's Office

March 7, 2019

Cardinal Innovations Healthcare
650 Highland Avenue, Suite 130
Winston-Salem, NC 27101

ATTN: Melissa Bunker

Dear Ms. Bunker:

On behalf of Rockingham County Management and the Rockingham County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), we are writing to endorse the Triad Child Residential Services Pilot program. Over the past year, we have attended the meetings that pertain to this pilot. This proposal seeks to reduce the use of Therapeutic Foster Care and other high-end residential treatments for children by providing training and crisis response to traditional foster care families contracted with Departments of Social Services. If successful, children would experience greater stability in their living arrangement and less additional trauma, likely at a lower cost to the service system. Early exposure to trauma, including child maltreatment, has been known to impact the lifelong well-being of a child's normal development and can impair social and emotional functioning. Placement instability also contributes to childhood trauma. By addressing the inconsistency between the federal and state mandates for county social service agencies regarding residential stability of foster children, as opposed to MCO mandates which trigger moves between levels of care when stability is achieved. Both County Management and DHHS are willing to participate in this program.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact one of us directly.

Sincerely,


Lance L. Metzler
County Manager


Felissa H. Ferrell
Director, Health and Human Services

LLM/FHF/sac