

ARCHULETA COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS
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RONNIE MAEZ
Chairman of the Board
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April 2, 2019

Bern Heath, Ph.D., CEO
Axis Health System
185 Suttle Street
Durango, CO 81303

Dear Mr. Heath,

We are pleased to provide this letter of support for your application to the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), to bring a New Access Point Health Center clinic to Archuleta County. We recognize that there are people in our county who are underserved and would benefit from the care options a Health Center would provide.

In Archuleta County, 13.7% of our 12,834 residents are underinsured, facing economic barriers to healthcare and therefore often avoid care until an emergency arises. Some services, like dental care, are not accessible to low-income residents because our local dental practices require insurance or payment at the time of service. Core health indicators in Archuleta County exceed the national benchmarks for negative health outcomes for dental care, diabetes, prenatal and perinatal health, cardiovascular disease, behavioral health and cancer. Given this, we are supportive of initiatives such as yours, which can positively impact the health of our community.

Axis Health System has been providing care in Archuleta County for over thirty years and we are confident your organization has the experience to implement a quality Health Center for our community. We hope that HRSA approves your application to allow Axis Health System to move forward with this important endeavor.

Sincerely,

Ronnie Maez, Chairman
Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners