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August 6, 2018

Lori Tremmel Freeman, Chief Executive Officer  
National Association of County and City Health Officials  
1201 I Street NW, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Ms. Freeman:

On behalf of the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, I am pleased to support the proposal of the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), in partnership with Abt Associates, the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC), and other key partners, in response to the Health Resources and Services Administration's Notice of Funding Opportunity titled, "*Rural Communities Opioid Response Program - Technical Assistance (HRSA-18-124)*."

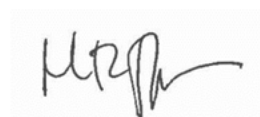
ASTHO recognizes the strength and significant subject matter expertise that NACCHO and its project partners bring to this project and strongly supports NACCHO's application to provide TA to rural communities engaging in activities to combat OUD. We look forward to opportunities to support NACCHO and its project partners in the implementation of its efforts.

ASTHO plans to disseminate information about the OUD strategies to our members, stakeholders, and partners; facilitate connections to stakeholders in RCORP award-recipient locations as appropriate; serve as subject matter experts for TA provision; and share resources supportive of OUD prevention, treatment, and recovery efforts in rural communities. ASTHO will also leverage experience from the 2017 ASTHO President's Challenge on [Public Health Approaches to Preventing Substance Misuse and Addictions](#) and the [ASTHO Opioids Framework](#) to support this project.

NACCHO, Abt, and UMKC are well equipped to support the establishment and sustainability of systems, programs, and policies necessary for communities to make a significant and lasting impact in the prevention and treatment of, and recovery from, substance/opioid use disorder. This is a timely and important proposal to support high-risk rural communities in the fight against the opioid epidemic. We enthusiastically support NACCHO and its partners in this application and look forward to continued partnership in the future.

Sincerely,

Mike Fraser



Michael Fraser, PhD MS CAE FCPP  
Chief Executive Officer