



June 26, 2024

Supervisor Lori Parlin, District IV  
El Dorado County Board of Supervisors  
330 Fair Lane, Placerville, CA 95667

Dear Supervisor Parlin,

We are responding to your email dated June 17, 2024. We appreciate your perspective and endeavor to address the concerns you raised.

We regret and seek to rectify any confusion. We reached out to El Dorado County's Health and Human Services officials as early as August 30, 2022, just two months after receiving our first grant award. We apologize if our letter to the Board of Supervisors on January 26, 2024, did not effectively communicate our intent to seek your support, and you are correct in stating that our first explicit request for collaboration with your office was on March 21, 2024. Moving forward, should an opportunity arise to receive another similar grant in this county, we will certainly reach out to you and your office early in the process.

However, regarding your statement that "we would have determined locations for your projects that are more conducive to the services that are being proposed," we wish to clarify, why Rescue was chosen for these facilities. First, the sites were carefully selected for their vital connection to the cultural and spiritual traditions of the Native Americans they will serve. Rescue's rural, peaceful surroundings and the secure environment it offers, are conducive to healing and growth among vulnerable Native American women. Second, given the highly competitive nature of the grant application process and the short window to apply, we were required to provide a 5% match in funds or real property towards the total grant amount, as a requirement of the grant applications. We used these lands as our 5% match. We applied for these grants without certainty of success. When we were awarded these grants, the grant funding was specifically awarded to these lands, so we cannot simply choose another location.

As mentioned in the fact sheet, we shared, these facilities are part of a statewide initiative that will serve Native American individuals from throughout California, including those who reside in El Dorado County, not just individuals from San Joaquin County.

We understand the importance of effective communication and recognize that we could have directly reached out to your office for support earlier in the process. As mentioned in previous correspondence, we remain eager to collaborate and provide transparency on these projects. We are requesting an in-person meeting at your earliest convenience to discuss how we can advance on these vital projects.

Thank you for your understanding.

Best regards,

*Patrick Prado*  
Patrick Prado, COO  
HomeCA Inc.

*Ramona Valadez*  
Ramona Valadez, Executive Director  
Native Directions Inc.

Cc:

Michelle Baass  
Director, California Department of Health Care Services

Kim Johnson  
Director, California Department of Social Services

Tiffany Schmid  
El Dorado County Chief Administration Officer

Olivia Byron-Cooper  
Director, El Dorado County Health and Human Services

Karen Garner  
Director, El Dorado County Planning and Building Department

Senator Marie Alvarado-Gil, California State Senator

Assemblymember Joe Patterson, California State Assemblymember