

Hoxie Medical Clinic  
826 18<sup>th</sup> Street  
Hoxie, KS 67740

February 3, 2016

Chairman Masterson and members of Ways and Means  
Concerning Senate Bill 389  
Aid to Local - Primary Health Care Community-Based Services

The residents of Sheridan County in NW Kansas have been recipients of the Primary Care Clinic Grant since 2012. This funding has been the backbone of our survival in the turbulent healthcare environment of the days in which we now live.

Our leadership team has been actively recruiting for a physician since 2008. In 2010 we took a leap of faith and contracted and collaborated with five physicians from a neighboring town to assist us in providing healthcare to our community. These physicians see patients in our clinic a few days a month and sponsor our midlevel providers. This working relationship has been beneficial in many ways but is also a challenging balance.

The funding that we receive has helped to pay these physicians and has opened the doors to greater access to quality care in our community.

A few short years ago our facility was concerned about making payroll and we were struggling to pay the expenses to keep our clinic and hospital open. There was great apprehension in the leadership team and community about how and if we could survive. This assistance came at the perfect time. It helped us further our mission and keep moving forward. It was the catalyst that was necessary to keep us hopeful about the future.

Now we have great visions for providing access to care in all areas of healthcare. Our community has been set apart for excellence and is plowing new ground in so many areas. The communities van is providing transportation to patients that cannot afford transportation for healthcare services, we offer a sliding fee scale to all patients who qualify, and we offer collaboration with other resources in the community.

Thank you for bringing hope and quality healthcare to rural Kansas residents! Thank you for bringing affordable access to hard working, independent farmers and agricultural workers. Thank you for helping to keep the largest employer in our county open. Thank you for considering continuing this funding.

Sincerely,

Pam Popp  
Clinic Manager