Date: May 7, 2019

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter of support for the Browning Public School District # 9 for their application for the Montana Health Care Foundation. This support is for the Prevention Coordinator position they are seeking funding for.

The need for a coordinator is greatly needed and will provide a spectrum of services serving also as a liaison between the district and the local community programs. With issues such as Substance Abuse, Bullying, Suicide, and Nutrition impacting our community youth, this position could certainly support and offer support as needed.

The youth of the Blackfeet reservation and surrounding areas are often faced with issues in these areas either directly or indirectly. This is something that a position such as this can contribute to by connecting them to various resources found in the community. Intervention, Prevention, and education can be offered with the right direction with a position such as this. The youth are the future of this community, and this is a very important position for the reservation.

Partnerships with a program like Southern Peigan School Health (SPSH) who is connected to the school district already and surrounding programs already can assist this Prevention Coordinator in the best way possible. The scope of practice and knowledge of specialized providers can offer any guidance and support for the coordinator through the use of best practices.

Please accept this letter of support on behalf of Southern Peigan School Health as a contribution to support our ongoing partnership with the Browning Public School District # 9. For further questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office @ (406)338-3948.

Respectfully,

Durand T. Bear Medicine, LAC,

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Southern Peigan School Health Addictions Coordinator

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