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Dear Ector County ISD Board of Trustees:

On August 28, 2018 I was reading through the Odessa American and I came across an article stating that Student Health Advisory Council (SHAC) is seeking members. After having worked for a non-profit organization focused on behavioral health care and substance abuse treatment in Ector County for many years, I have heard of this body in several different contexts. I began to consider how I might be able to assist ECISD and the SHAC in their mission.

It is all too often during meetings of the leadership at my organization that we identify gaps in our awareness about where our efforts and resources would best be put to use for the residents of Ector County. For example, we have recently been awarded a contract from the Texas Health and Human Services Commission to provide training to public school district employees and resource officers to assist in the early identification of children at risk for social/emotional disorders. This is just one resource we offer that might be a benefit to the district.

An appointment to the council would help me understand more specifically what the need areas of our community are. This understanding would allow me to more effectively target what we're doing as the public community mental health center in terms of policy influence with our legislators and county/city officials, grant applications, local program implementation, etc.

It is my sincere hope that you would thoughtfully consider my role in the leadership of one of the largest mental health and substance abuse treatment providers in Ector County as you review my application for membership. I believe that an appointment to the student health advisory council would be mutually beneficial to both of our organizations but more importantly, our collaboration would be beneficial to the residents of Ector County.

Kind Regards

Joshua Alaniz