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Dear IDOA and DMHA Representatives:

The Marion County Prosecutor's Office (MCPO) is pleased to write a letter in support of the Indiana Addictions Issues Coalition (IAIC) application for the Division of Mental Health and Addiction (DMHA) Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) Regional Recovery Hub contract proposal. We strongly support this contract application and its focus on improving barrier-free access to peer recovery support services (PRSS) for individuals affected by substance use disorder (SUD), mental illness (MI), and/or co-occurring disorders (COD) throughout the counties located in region nine (9) of the revised statewide Regional Recovery Hub (RRH) program.

The need for expanding and providing barrier-free community-based PRSS is significant in Marion County and the MCPO appreciates the State's efforts and support in ensuring the RRH program continues. As an agency based in Marion County, we have seen firsthand how barriers to accessing PRSS and other services have had a negative impact on our community members and families struggling with SUD, MI, and COD.

As an organization that sees far too many people enter the criminal justice system with addiction issues, we are excited for the opportunity for IAIC to enhance their operations. With a 25-year dedication and commitment to providing education and advocacy on the importance of SUD as a chronic disease, providing PRSS, and the positive impact PRSS has on individuals, families, and communities in region nine, we know that their work will provide a lasting positive impact on our community.

MCPO is committed to improving public safety through a range of efforts focused on crime prevention and prosecution. The office employs nearly 400 staff members, including 160 Deputy Prosecutors who prosecute approximately 30,000 criminal cases each year. MCPO is dedicated to holding criminals accountable for their actions, preserving the rights of victims, and continually seeking justice, all while maintaining the highest of ethical standards.

It is our hope that IDOA and DMHA will favorably review and support IAIC's proposal.

Sincerely,

Ryan Mears
Marion County Prosecutor