A. DREW FERGUSON IV, D.M.D. THIRD DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

> 1032 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515 (202) 225–5901

> > 1601 E Hwy 34, Suite B Newnan, GA 30265

Congress of the United States House of Representatives Mashington, DC 20515

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

CHIEF DEPUTY WHIP

468

July 15, 2021

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel, Acting Chairwoman Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street SW Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel,

Please accept this letter of support for the McIntosh Trail Community Service Board's round 2 funding application for the Promoting Telehealth for Low-Income Consumers, COVID-19 Telehealth Program. My staff has reviewed their application and they have a convincing need for this program, which will allow the McIntosh Trail Community Service Board to reach their goal of providing much needed mental and behavioral health services to our most vulnerable residents.

McIntosh Trail Community Service Board serves thousands of my constituents with a range of services including mental and behavioral health, substance abuse, child & adolescent trauma, and intellectual and developmental disabilities services. They have advised my office that they have seen a significant increase in patients during the pandemic. They have explained that while the Covid-19 vaccine has been improving case rates and increasing our ability to come together, they are still providing services to help communities and citizens heal from the trauma related to the loss of livelihoods, and social isolation. McIntosh Trail's ability to expand telehealth services is critical to meet our citizens' needs wherever they are, whenever they need the help, while placing them with the right provider. McIntosh Trail has advised that in addition to helping individual citizens directly, that their services and interventions help prevent unnecessary emergency department encounters and hospital stays in our already strained healthcare system.

Based on this information, I give my full support to McIntosh Trail Community Service Board's round 2 application for funding from the FCC Covid-19 Telehealth Program Promoting Telehealth for Low-Income Consumers. I believe this funding will assist in their goal to provide vital services to the members of our community who have been hardest hit by the mental health effects of the Covid-19 pandemic. I respectfully request that every consideration be given to their application in accordance with your established policies and procedures. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact my District Director, Andy Bush, at (770) 683-2033.

Sincerely,

A. Drew Ferguson A Member of Congress