October 21, 2013

To: Ohio Department of Education

RE: Straight A Fund Grant

The Four County Board of Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services (ADAMhs Board) is pleased and excited to be a partner in requesting continued funding to address student behavioral health issues.

A very important aspect of this project is the willingness of Liberty Center Schools to collaborate and utilize existing community resources.

The need for the grant is well documented in the most recent county health assessment. Just a few numbers, 21% of youth reported being depressed and 7% had made a suicide attempt. Substance abuse has actually decreased due to aggressive programs such as ones provided at Liberty Center Schools.

Of course funding reductions are well documented, but by forming partnerships, outcomes can still be achieved and students can receive the support they need and deserve.

The Four County ADAMhs Board and system providers, fully endorse this grant and any programs used to meet the behavioral health needs of the students.

Les McCaslin, CEO
Four County ADAMhs Board