Estella Byrd Whitman Community Health Center

819 Northwest 7th Street Ocala, Florida 34475 352-875-2226 (p) 352-389-1013(f) www.ebwchc.org

December 2, 2024

Peter Lee-City Manager 110 SE Watula Ave. Ocala, FL 34471

Dear Mr. Lee,

I hope this message finds you well. At the Estella Byrd Whitman Community Health Center, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, our mission remains steadfast: to address the significant healthcare needs of underserved individuals in our community, particularly in ZIP code 34475—one of the most critically underserved areas in Marion County.

In 2024, we proudly served over 1,700 patients so far, marking a significant increase from the previous year's 321 patient visits. Through outreach events and partnerships, we continue to bridge the gap for those facing barriers to care, including transportation challenges. However, transportation remains one of the most pressing obstacles for many of our patients, preventing them from accessing the essential care they need.

To further our impact and enhance access to care, we are humbly seeking the donation of a vehicle, specifically an SUV or van. This vehicle would be transformative for our work, enabling us to:

- Transport patients to and from medical appointments, ensuring they don't miss out on vital care.
- Participate in community outreach events, bringing health resources directly to underserved neighborhoods.
- Expand our reach, ensuring no one is left behind in accessing quality healthcare.

Your support in donating a vehicle would make a profound difference, directly addressing one of the most significant barriers to care and strengthening our ability to serve the community. This gift would not only help improve health outcomes but also enhance the quality of life for many residents. Thank you for considering this request and for your unwavering commitment to the well-being of our community. Your partnership and leadership have always been invaluable, and we hope to continue working together to make a lasting impact.

With deepest gratitude,

Levenda K. Geedsen Levonda Goodson CEO, Estella Byrd Whitman Community Health Center Levonda.goodson@byrdwhitmanchc.onmicrosoft.com 352-875-2226

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD MEDICAL HOME