December 3, 2010

Ms. Sunne Wright McPeak
President and CEO
California Emerging Technology Fund
1000 N. Alameda Street, Suite 240
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Subject: Virtual Dental Home final report (grant agreement #3395477)

Dear Ms. McPeak,

I am pleased to submit a final report on the $25,000 planning grant awarded by the California Emerging Technology Fund to the California Dental Association Foundation (CDA Foundation) to support the integration of the Virtual Dental Home (VDH) into proposed sites of the California Telehealth Network (CTN). This letter and the attached budget report serve as the final deliverables outlined in our grant agreement to release the third and fourth grant payments totaling $10,000.

The CDA Foundation and the Pacific Center for Special Care (Pacific Center) have selected nine sites for the Virtual Dental Home demonstration. This summer, the infrastructure-building period was completed and the implementation period (patient services at the nine project sites) began. As you know, CTN began construction for its broadband network of connections to 800 healthcare facilities this spring and hosted a launch event in August. As the CTN broadband network becomes available to more of the participating healthcare facilities, and as these healthcare facilities begin connecting to the network, there will be many opportunities for VDH and CTN to collaborate. Communication between VDH and CTN continues and Thomas S. Nesbitt, M.D., M.P.H., has joined the VDH Advisory Committee. In addition, Paul Glassman, DDS, MA, MBA, has joined the Telehealth Model Statute Workgroup, which is a committee of the Center for Connected Health Policy.

Initial Findings, Recommendations and Protocols to Scale-up and Integrate VDH into more CTN sites:

- Dental services is a priority for many of the participating CTN healthcare facilities, particularly those that are located in rural areas and/or Dental Health Professional Shortage Areas.
- There is a need for training on oral health topics among healthcare providers at CTN healthcare facilities. The Pacific Center is willing to assist in determining appropriate topics and presenters for online training that would take place via the CTN broadband network.
- Implementation of VDH at CTN healthcare facilities would require: dental and computer equipment, a dental software subscription, and a dental hygienist or dental assistant for each facility; resources to assemble and configure technology kits; the inclusion of collaborating dentists in the CTN network; and initial and ongoing training for participating dental professionals and healthcare facility personnel.
- Further discussions regarding training and implementation of VDH at CTN healthcare facilities should take place after VDH initial demonstration project data becomes available and more healthcare facilities become connected to the CTN network.
- Potential policy and regulatory barriers to MediCal and Healthy Families reimbursement of dental services via distance technologies should be explored and resolved in order to promote future adoption. The Center for Connected Health Policy is leading these efforts.

- VDH has developed the following protocols that were developed for demonstration sites and could be used by VDH sites at CTN healthcare facilities in the future:
  - o Site Protocols, which provide details about project activities and procedures, including personnel responsibilities;
  - o Evaluating Urgency and Importance of Referring a Patient to a Dentist, which will be used by dental hygienists and assistants at the sites, and by dentists in dental offices;
  - o Radiology Safety, which are critical to enabling dental hygienists and assistants to take X-rays in the field, and will be used during implementation;
  - o Interim Therapeutic Restorations, which will be used by dental hygienists and assistants; and
  - o Caries Prevention, which includes a risk assessment form for Caries Management by Risk Assessment (CAMBRA) and prevention products.

Outcomes:
The Virtual Dental Home has been providing dental care to patients at nine sites since this summer. As of October 31, a total of 204 patients, including children, adults and senior citizens, were at varying stages of assessment and treatment. Each of these patients has received oral health hygiene instruction, caries prevention products (as necessary), evaluation of records by a dentist, and intraoral photographs and radiographs (if requested by a dentist). It should be noted that dental hygienists and assistants will begin making decisions about which teeth require radiographs and placing restorations (without the direct supervision of a dentist) after the California Office of Statewide Planning & Development (OHSPD) approves the Virtual Dental Home's Health Workforce Pilot Project application. Approval of the application will significantly increase efficiency by eliminating the need for follow-up visits for radiographs only.

Dental professionals, patients and site staff associated with the nine demonstration sites continue to be enthusiastic about the Virtual Dental Home. Assuming demonstration project data show oral health improvements among a significant percentage of patients, the Virtual Dental Home would be a promising application for CTN healthcare facilities if the implementation requirements are met.

Budget Report:
A budget report on the $25,000 planning grant is enclosed. There were no significant differences between proposed and actual expenses.

Thank you for your support of the Virtual Dental Home. If you have any questions, please contact me at **rolande.loftus@cda.org** or **916.554.4918**.

Sincerely,

Rolande Loftus
Program Director

Enclosure

cc. Luis Arteaga, CETF
    Peter A. DuBois, CDA Foundation
    Dr. Paul Glassman, Pacific Center

VIRTUAL DENTAL HOME

A project of the California Dental Association Foundation and
Pacific Center for Special Care of the University of the Pacific, Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry

Budget Report (September 1, 2009 - August 31, 2010)

	Project Budget	CETF Budget	CETF Expenses
Personnel			
Staff:			
Project Director	57,164	0	0
Project co-director	25,106	5,000	5,000
Faculty Dentist	30,900	0	0
Program Manger	30,900	0	0
Provider & Dissemination Coordinator	10,300	5,000	5,000
Markeing/Communication Specialist	10,043	0	0
Administrative Assistant	16,995	0	0
Employer Taxes (8.2%)	14,875	820	820
Benefits (26.8%)	48,617	2,680	2,680
Sub-Total: Personnel Costs	$244,900	$13,500	$13,500
Program			
Hardware:			
Dell Latitude D630 laptop computer	20,700	0	0
Verizon Wireless USB Modem	1,800	0	0
Nomad Portable X-ray Unit	58,500	0	0
E2V Digital Sensor and USB Interface	45,000	0	0
Schick USB Intra-oral Camera	54,000	0	0
Software:			
Planet DDDS Software Fee/Subscription	18,000	0	0
Communications:			
Verizon wireless access fee	14,400	0	0
Other:			
Stipend - Community Oral Health Professionals	360,000	0	0
Stipend - Dentist	270,000	0	0
Sub-Total: Program Costs	$842,400	$0	$0
Operations			
Phone, mailings, educational materials	5,000	0	0
Training sessions - handouts, food, room rental	15,000	5,000	5,000
Staff and trainee travel to meetings, trainings, project sites	15,000	5,000	5,000
IT Support - programming, data collection and analysis	15,000	0	0
Dissemination activities	10,000	0	0
Outreach and communications	7,500	1,500	1,500
Indirect Expenses (15%)	173,220	0	0
Sub-Total: Operations	$240,720	$11,500	$11,500
TOTAL	**$1,328,020**	**$25,000**	**$25,000**