

April 1, 2020

Chris Hill
Collin County Judge
Collin County Commissioners Court
Collin County Administration Building
2300 Bloomdale Rd., Suite 419
McKinney, TX 75071

**RE: Request for Emergency Funds** 

## Collin County Commissioners Court:

LifePath Systems requests additional funding in the amount of \$27,500 per month for 2 months for a total of \$55,000. Funds are intended to support an increase in wages for our direct care professionals working in our Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) Intermediate Care Facilities (ICF) and Home and Community Based Services (HCS) group homes.

Funds are necessary to raise base pay from \$10 per hour to \$15 per hour for these employees. This will ensure that group homes have direct care staff willing and able to work in these 24 hour residential facilities. The funds will also allow staff to not have to work multiple jobs at multiple long term care facilities (LTCF). By limiting the number of LTCF's that individuals work in, we can reduce the risk of disease transmission, including COVID-19, for this high risk medically fragile population.

We plan to continue to urge the Texas Health and Human Services Commission to increase the rates for ICF and HSC group home services. If the state increases these rates as requested, we will return any unused county funds.

Sincerely,

Tammy Mahan, MA, LPC-S
Chief Executive Officer