



20 December 2021

Dear IGA partners,

Having nearly wrapped up a year with continued challenges for our communities as in 2020, this letter accompanies the 2022 IGA for The Link's services to all. As shared in communications over the summer regarding the six-year average use, there is no increase to the total amount which remains the same as from contract year 2017. The 2022 intergovernmental agreement is ready for signatures from your municipal or county representatives.

Thanks to those who shared updates throughout the year; please let me know right away if your signature page has the incorrect name(s) or titles. Please follow your process to secure the signature page for your respective jurisdiction. We can pick up hard copy signed pages at your convenience, you may send them to The Link at the address above, and/or e-mail the signed documents to nikole.brunns@thelinkcolorado.org and Administrative Assistant orilea.medina@thelinkcolorado.org by 1 February 2022 or your earliest convenience. We will send a fully executed copy to all parties with signatory pages and invoices as soon as these are received.

I am always pleased to speak to your city council or managers, county commissioners and leaders including law enforcement command staff about The Link and its services as part of your signature process or any presentation request. I am again proud to report that The Link has remained open throughout the pandemic, adjusting to the continued recommendations, data, and orders. We continue to operate 24 hours for transports and are available all days of the year for detention screens despite reducing our number of staff. The Link has taken on additional ways to serve you as transports from law enforcement dropped, such as offering Restorative Justice including for municipal charges and school-related offenses, and we provide screening to diversion for municipal offenses through agreement with the North Metro Community Diversion Board. Through developing partnerships with private clinical providers, The Link will again have on-site mental health support several days per week in early 2022.

The Link welcomes opportunities to adjust to the needs of your departments, and I am grateful for continued partnership. Contributions through this agreement allow your Juvenile Assessment Center to receive youth, identifying presenting problems and matching resources for intervention and to improve behavioral health. We know youth who have contact with law enforcement and those who are experiencing difficulty at school or home have increased odds for future involvement with the justice system; our team wants to continue working with yours so that youth and families receive services they may need more immediately.

Please direct any questions or comments to me, forwarding my contact information as appropriate to others and sharing any changes to your department(s) as needed.

Very Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Nikole C. Bruns' with a decorative flourish at the end.

Nikole C. Bruns
Executive Director