**July 16, 2021**

Where hope lives, healing begins, and everything is possible!

Ms. Ann Graham

Re-entry Association of Western New York

RE: Current and anticipated activities Dear Ms. Graham:

I am writing to express my support for the work of the Re-entry Association of Western New York. We are familiar with the work that the Safer Monroe Area Re-entry Task Force (SMART) has done over the years and are excited to see the new leadership and direction that is now in place with Reentry Association of Western New York (RAWNY).

The needs and interests of those individuals and families experiencing the return to our community after a period of incarceration have been a long-standing concern of ours. The Monroe County area was once able to boast about having a coordinated, supported and resourceful response to the challenges that people in re-entry must face. Committed agencies and faith-based groups were able to offer everything from correctional in-reach at the jails and through the prison system, to advocacy, support and treatment, to job development and transitional housing. Over the years, resources have dwindled such that we are currently only able to provide these transitional services at a fraction of what we once were.

At Huther Doyle we provide a range of Substance Use Disorder treatments including Medication Assisted Treatment, and we are pleased to be able to provide immediate access to care. Recently, we have introduced a “mobile clinic,” a full capacity vehicle that combs the underserved areas on the west side to bring assessment, intervention and medications to individuals who suffer from addictions. In addition, as the lead agency for the Health Homes of Upstate New York, we coordinate professional care management services across dozens of agencies for the most needy in our community. Huther Doyle has been privileged to work with the criminal justice population, providing follow up treatment for those leaving the Federal Bureau of Prisons, for those being released from local corrections and for persons involved in Intercept 0 - 3, representing earlier points of behavioral change and treatment in lieu of a lengthy term of incarceration. Our outreach workers are on site at the jail and a number of other locations including the Public Defender’s Office and Probation to inform and interview those involved in the criminal justice system for appropriateness of Huther Doyle’s services.

We are excited to have the newly organized RAWNY on board to advocate, rally resources, coordinate and build an effective response to the challenges of re-entry in our community. We understand that re-entry is a public safety issues of the greatest magnitude. We encourage incoming Mayor Malik Evans to carefully consider working with RAWNY to help our community work towards an improved re-entry system designed to assist our criminal justice involved residents to achieve their success in a community that welcomes them and encourages their goals. Huther Doyle most certainly plans to coordinate with your efforts at whatever junctures are fruitful and helpful.

Sincerely,



Kelly A. Reed President & CEO