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**CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL STRUCTURE**

2531 ETNA STREET, BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94704

(415) 845-4888

December 11, 1970

Dr. Hewitt F. Ryan  
Program Chief  
Stanislaus County Mental  
Health Services  
1024 "J" Street  
Modesto, California

Dear Dr. Ryan,

This letter is to establish in writing for your files, the fact that we have undertaken a formal commitment to work with you on the design of the Modesto Community Mental Health Center. We shall be doing this work with the approval of our grant supervisors at NIMH, and under the NIMH Grant No. MH-16667-03, which is specifically intended to support us in work of this kind. Since we receive salaries from the grant, we shall not charge professional fees for any work included in the scope of work outlined below.

The scope of the work which we foresee has three parts:

1. We shall work with you, and your staff, the staff of FECA, NIMH, and County and State Construction staffs, to help you create the architectural program and schematic designs for the Community Mental Health Center. We shall work to complete enough of this phase by January 31, to establish architectural schematics and budgetary information.
2. We shall then, ourselves, take responsibility for creating the preliminary designs and specifications, which will be submitted to NIMH for action by the National Mental Health Advisory Council.
3. We shall then undertake supervision of the working drawings, and construction, but will not ourselves prepare the working drawings. The exact process by which working drawings and construction will be handled, is still under discussion.

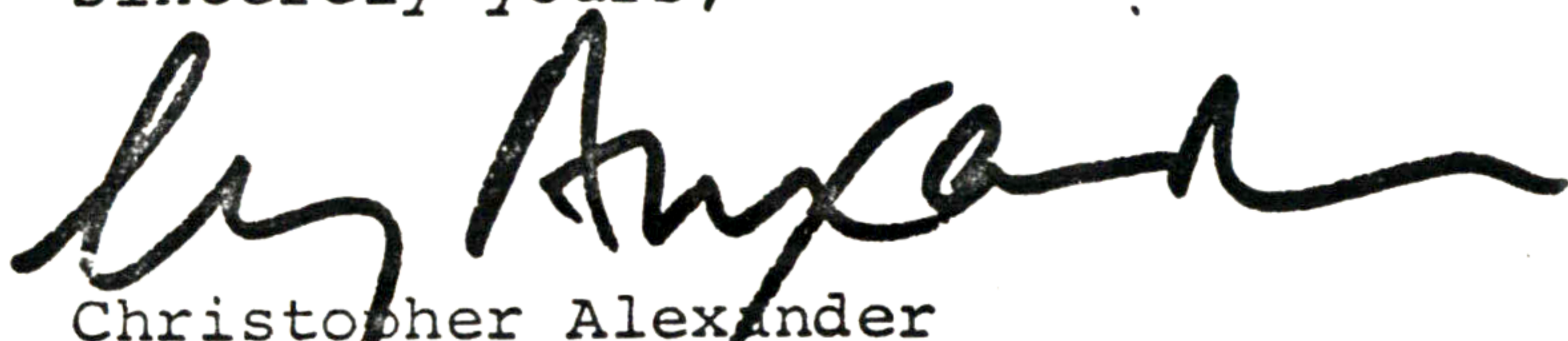
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Either we shall try to work under a negotiated bid arrangement, directly with an engineering-contractor, or we shall make an arrangement with a firm of engineers to prepare conventional working drawings and specifications, in preparation for a conventional bidding procedure. The staff of FECA is considering these two alternatives. Which ever of the two we finally adopt, we shall take full responsibility for the design phase of the building, and for the task of supervising the implementary stages which follow the design phase.

Since we are not doing this work under a formal contract, this letter stands in lieu of a contract, to assure you of our firm commitment to the project, and to the specific tasks outlined above.

I understand that the County Administrator's Office has yet to approve this arrangement, and that there is, as yet, no commitment on your side or theirs. However, I want to be sure you understand that our side of the commitment stands, and we will be happy to meet with the County authorities, in any way necessary to meet their requirements.

Sincerely yours,



Christopher Alexander

CA:mlr

cc: Ray Craig  
Clyde Dorsett  
Dr. Westphal  
Freidner Wittman