



March 1, 2023

Senator Sandy Pappas  
95 University Avenue West  
Minnesota Senate Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Representative Fue Lee  
House of Representatives  
343 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**RE: HF 966/SF 910 Firefighters 4 Healing**

Dear Chair Pappas and Chair Lee,

We write in support of HF 966/SF 910, a proposal requesting \$3.5 million in one-time funding for the Firefighters For Healing Transitional Healing Center. They have raised or received commitments from corporate partners and individual donors for nearly half of the \$7.5M project.

**The mission of Firefighters For Healing is to support burn survivor patients & help firefighters and first responders pivot after a line of duty injury or medical diagnosis.**

When a first responder has a medical diagnosis or a child or adult has sustained burn trauma, the family is forced into weeks or months of unique challenges. The Firefighters For Healing Transitional Healing Center provides 24/7 relief for families by providing emergency housing and a wide range of support. In 2022 they provided **1026 nights of housing**. In 2023, they grew to 12 one-bedroom suites to meet the demand.

The Firefighters For Healing Transitional Healing Center is located one block away from Hennepin Healthcare's Burn Center. This Burn Center is nationally recognized for providing intensive, acute, and rehabilitative burn care to children and adults from the Twin Cities and surrounding states who have sustained burn injuries and other complex wounds. The Burn Center is one of the busiest in the nation that treats an average of 10 patients per day on the unit and 20+ patients per day in the outpatient clinic.

A traumatic fire or medical diagnosis can cause devastation to an individual or a family. Recovery and treatment take time. Your support would help firefighters have access to the resources they need. Let's honor their commitment to saving lives by committing resources to support theirs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jennifer DeCubellis".

Jennifer DeCubellis  
Chief Executive Officer  
Hennepin Healthcare System