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## **S.F. No. 4664 – Respite care grants modification and youth care professional training program creation**

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### Bill Overview

**S.F. 4664** modifies services eligible for children’s mental health grants, creates a youth care professional training program, modifies adult and children’s mobile transition units appropriations, directs the commissioner to provide access to respite care services and to develop a medical assistance benefit for children’s residential crisis stabilization, and appropriates money for various mental health services.

### Section Summaries

**Section 1 (amends 245.4889, subdivision 1)** modifies the list of services that are eligible for children’s mental health grants.

**Section 2 (creates 245.4908)** establishes a youth care professional training program.

**Subdivision 1** establishes the youth care professional training program to provide relevant onboarding and training requirements for direct care staff in children’s residential settings, excluding foster care and foster residences.

**Subdivision 2** requires the commissioner of human services to contract with a third-party training provider and that the training provider must establish a curriculum for and administer the training program. Requires the training provider to include children’s residential and children’s mental health day treatment providers in the development of the curriculum.

**Subdivision 3** requires the training provider to teach participants how to provide services according to a trauma-informed model of care and provides what the courses must include. Requires the training provider to create and maintain a youth care professional registry and a

learning management system to keep a record of each participant's completed training programs.

**Section 3 (amends Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 7, article 17, section 12, as amended by Laws 2022, chapter 98, article 15, section 13, Laws 2022, chapter 99, article 1, section 43, and Laws 2023, chapter 70, article 20, section 18)** modifies the appropriation for adult and children's mobile transition units and appropriates \$2,000,000 in fiscal year 2025. Contains a retroactive effective date of January 1, 2024.

**Section 4 (Direction to Commissioner; Respite Care)** requires the commissioner to develop proposals by December 31, 2025, to increase access to licensed respite foster care homes that take into consideration the new federal rule related to licensing and approval standards for relative or kinship foster family homes.

**Section 5 (Direction to Commissioner; Mental Health Stabilization)** requires the commissioner of human services to develop a covered benefit under medical assistance to provide residential mental health crisis stabilization for children and provides what the benefit must include.

**Section 6 (School-Linked Behavioral Health Grant Base)** increases the base for school-linked behavioral health grants by \$2,500,000 in fiscal year 2026 and \$2,500,000 in fiscal year 2027.

**Section 7 (Appropriation; Youth Care Training Program)** appropriates \$1,500,000 in fiscal year 2025 from the general fund to the commissioner of human services to contract with a third-party training provider who will develop the youth care professional training program. Provides that the general fund base is \$950,000 in fiscal year 2026 and \$0 in fiscal year 2027.

**Section 8 (Appropriation; Respite Care Services)** appropriates \$5,000,000 in fiscal year 2025 from the general fund to the commissioner of human services for respite care services. Directs \$1,000,000 of this appropriation to be for grants to private child-placing agencies to conduct recruitment and to support licensing activities that are specific to increasing the availability of licensed foster homes to provide respite care services.

**Section 9 (Appropriation; Community-Based Group Home Care)** appropriates \$2,000,000 in fiscal year 2025 from the general fund to the commissioner of human services for grants to organizations that serve children in community-based group homes and specifies how grants funds must be used.

**Section 10 (Appropriation; In-Home Children's Mental Health Infrastructure Grants)** appropriates \$10,000,000 in fiscal year 2025 from the general fund to the commissioner of human services for infrastructure grants to develop family-centered in-home mental health services. Provides that grant funds may be used for start-up costs.