

The MN Family Resiliency Partnership

Formerly Known as the MN Displaced Homemaker Program

Dear Chair Marty and Committee Members:

I am contacting you to express my support for Senator Latz's bill SF1417.

Included in the bill is a modest increase in the portion of dissolution fees allocated to a special revenue fund for the statewide Minnesota Family Resiliency Partnership (MFRP) which will stabilize our funding. There has not been an adjustment to the program's funding level in over 22 years! These funds will allow us to continue to provide wrap around services and long-term solutions that help break down the barriers that keep our participants and their children trapped in poverty after a major life transition like divorce, death, abandonment, or disability of a partner.

MFRP is the **only** program in the state specifically designed to provide pre-employment and family stabilization services to displaced homemakers. The services are provided by a network of six regional programs serving the state. Last year 73% of program participants were survivors of domestic violence. The support and skills offered by MFRP help these participants move toward economic self-sufficiency and are often the way to escape unsafe relationships.

Over 96% of participants successfully complete the program by attaining the goals they set at intake, which include completing an individualized self-sufficiency plan which demonstrates stability, pursuing a degree or certificate program, and/or becoming employed.

We appreciate Senator Latz's support and inclusion in the bill. The Minnesota Family Resiliency Partnership wishes to convey our solid support of SF1417.

Respectfully,

Jean M. Keenan

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On Behalf of the Minnesota Family Resiliency Partnership

