



Adoption • Chemical Health Assessment & Outpatient Treatment • In-Home Services
Foster Care • Outpatient Mental Health Services • School Based Services • Medication Management
Residential: *Treatment Cottage, Boys Program & Teens in Transition,*
Girls Program & Girls Teens in Transition, and Next Step
I.T.A.S.K.I.N. Center: *Stabilization Shelter Unit, 35 Day Evaluation & Detention Center*

February 24, 2025

Chair Wiklund and Members of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee;

My name is Connie Ross. I am the Vice President & Chief Program Officer for North Homes Children and Family Services. I am writing to support SF 1402. We deeply support the remedies noted in the bill. It is imperative that we fix Medical Assistance reimbursement rates. Failure to do so will result in the reduced capacity to meet the needs of children and families in need as 80% of mental health providers have indicated that they would need to diminish capacity or close programs. We need to promote access to care in order to prevent the continued boarding crisis of children downstream.

Please support Minnesota children by supporting the 2024 DHS Outpatient Services Rate Study framework.

Please support SF 1402 so that children and families have access to the quality care they deserve. We cannot wait another year for a solution. Rate increases are imperative to sustain our current provider capacity and prevent further deterioration of our children's mental health.

Sincerely,

Connie Ross

Vice President & Chief Program Officer

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