



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

1931 West Broadway, Suite 101

Minneapolis, MN 55411

www.rseden.org

March 11th, 2025

RE: SF 1732, Family Supportive Housing Services Bill

Dear Chair Wiklund and Members of the Housing and Homelessness Prevention Committee,

RS EDEN appreciates the opportunity to support SF 1732, the Family Supportive Housing Services bill. This bill would directly help families experiencing homelessness or housing instability by filling the state funding gap for services for families in supportive housing.

Family supportive housing is critical to ending the experience of homelessness for families. When we provide subsidized housing with on-site services, families with children find relief from the exhausting cycle of survival through supportive housing. Stable housing allows parents and guardians to breathe and take a beat, rebuild, and focus on creating nurturing environments where children can learn, play and grow without worrying about where they will be the following day.

It is difficult to sustain or create new family supportive housing because there is no state source of funding for services for the entire family in supportive housing. The most effective way to provide services to a family is a holistic, comprehensive approach that provides case management, services, and programming for the entire family. This approach allows families to stay together and gives them the support they need to thrive.

Current state services programs focus only on funding individuals narrowly for their specific disabilities, which does not cover the comprehensive approach needed to support a family. The bill would create a flexible grant program that would fill this gap and result in stability for families.

As an organization that provides both individual and family housing in the metro area, we know all too well that family housing requires a different level of service delivery and funding to support the family than individual units. The needs do not increase linearly with the number of people, but rather exponentially. Family dynamics, strengths, and challenges are uniquely complex and require a different support mechanism.

Thank you for your leadership and hope you can join us in supporting this SF1732, the family supportive housing services bill.

Thank You,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Caroline Hood'.

Caroline Hood, LICSW
President and CEO
RS EDEN