

MINNESOTA ALLIANCE WITH

March 18, 2025

Dear Committee Members,

Minnesota Alliance With Youth brings people together in service across generations to make our state a place where all young people can thrive. The Alliance's AmeriCorps Promise Fellow program provides schools and organizations with the support and "people power" to deliver a data informed, evidence-based model based on the early warning indicators of high school dropout. The program results in increased school attendance and academic engagement for off-track students in grades 6-12. Working with a team of school-based staff, AmeriCorps Promise Fellows engage in a variety of evidence-based interventions that fall into three categories: Caring Adults, Service and Service-Learning, and Out-Of-School Supports. These Interventions align with the National Dropout Prevention Center's Basic Core Strategies identified as most effective in reducing school dropout.

The YIP grant plays a crucial role in bolstering our AmeriCorps Promise Fellow program. This funding allows us to support Promise Fellows who work directly with youth, helping them navigate academic challenges and increase their school engagement, ultimately leading to on-time high school graduation. YIP support of our program means more students across Minnesota come to school more often, are more engaged, feel more connected to school, and graduate from high school prepared for their next step in life.

We strongly urge you to fully fund the YIP grant, as it is essential for sustaining initiatives that are vital to the future success of Minnesota's youth. Thank you for considering this important investment in our state's future.

With gratitude,



Jim Davnie, Executive Director, Minnesota Alliance With Youth

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