



March 18, 2025

Dear Committee Members,

For 55 years, Relate Counseling Center has been a leading non-profit provider of mental health care in Western Hennepin County. Our main office is in Minnetonka, but we have school-based programs in 53 schools across eight school districts. We provide direct services to thousands of individuals, including 1,100 youth in office and 3,000+ youth in schools, including chemical health education and prevention activities in four districts.

The need for mental health services for the youth in our community is greater than ever. With the funding received for the provision of these services through the Youth Intervention Program (YIP), we are able to help youth function at higher levels, achieve greater school success, experience less involvement with juvenile justice systems, and have less likelihood of experiencing long-term mental health issues.

We ask that you continue to fully fund the YIP grant so that Relate, along with the many other agencies receiving YIP funds in Minnesota, can continue to do the work to address the needs of the youth in our communities.

Sincerely,

Joan Twiton

Joan Twiton
Executive Director