



Minnesota Coalition FOR FAMILY HOME VISITING

Senator Melissa Wiklund
Health & Human Services Committee
Room 1100, Minnesota Senate Building

Dear Chair Wiklund and Members of the Committee,

The Minnesota Coalition for Family Home Visiting (MCFHV) thanks you for prioritizing children's mental health and wellbeing in the Senate Health and Human Services omnibus bill, SF2669. The **Children's Mental Health Grant Program** will allow more programs to access stable funding necessary to provide these critical family and child supports to address a rising mental health crisis in families with young children.

When addressed and treated early in a child's life, mental health interventions are shown to prevent the need for additional medication, saving costs and mitigating the lifelong impact of mental health challenges on the child's cognitive, physical and emotional development. Investing in mental health services in Minnesota will increase access to affordable healthcare by removing unnecessary complexities that pose as a barrier to providers supporting the mental health and wellbeing of families in Minnesota.

Thank you again for joining the Minnesota Coalition for Family Home Visiting in addressing the rising mental health concerns in Minnesota, and for working to improve access to preventative and early intervention mental health services for both caregivers and their children.

Sincerely,

Paula Frisk,
Minnesota Coalition for Family Home Visiting (MCFHV), Chair
St. David's Center for Child & Family Development
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Mental Health Practitioner & Infant-Parent Specialist

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