



Chair Melissa Wicklund
Chair John Hoffman
Minnesota State Legislature
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Wicklund, Chair Hoffman, and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of Nexus Family Healing, I am writing to express our strong support for continued and enhanced funding for School-Linked Mental Health (SLMH) services in Minnesota. As a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting youth and families affected by trauma and mental health challenges, we have seen firsthand the profound and lasting impact that these services have on our communities.

School-Linked Mental Health funding plays a critical role in addressing disparities in access to care—especially for students in under-resourced schools, communities of color, and rural areas where transportation and provider shortages create substantial barriers. By embedding mental health professionals directly within school environments, we reduce the stigma of seeking help, eliminate logistical challenges, and ensure timely support is available when students need it most.

SLMH services also promote equity by proactively identifying students at risk and providing culturally responsive care. This approach ensures that all children—regardless of background or socioeconomic status—have the opportunity to access the support they deserve. It is a crucial step toward breaking cycles of trauma and disadvantage, and investing in these programs will yield both short- and long-term benefits for our communities.

We urge you to prioritize and expand School-Linked Mental Health funding in this legislative session. Your support will directly empower schools to serve as vital access points for mental health services and help close the persistent gaps that too many families face.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to the well-being of Minnesota's youth.

Regards,

Margaret Vimont
Chief Growth Officer
Nexus Family Healing

