



Maangaar Voices

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David Zak
Committee Administrator
Senate Human Services Committee

Dear Chair Hoffman, Vice Chair Fateh, and members of the Human Services Committee,

On behalf of Maangaar Voices, an organization dedicated to advocacy within the immigrant disability community, we are writing to express our strong support for SF 2733, which would provide critical funding to Niyyah Recovery Initiative. Our work centers around supporting families with children on the autism spectrum and other disabilities, and in doing so, we often encounter households where multiple challenges exist—including substance use disorders. Many of the families we work with are navigating complex realities: raising children with disabilities while also struggling with the devastating effects of chronic substance abuse within their household. The intersection of these challenges creates immense stress, isolation, and financial hardship. When one family member is affected by substance use disorder, the entire family feels the weight of it, especially in communities where stigma often prevents people from seeking help. Niyyah Recovery Initiative has been instrumental in bridging that gap, providing culturally responsive support to individuals and families who might otherwise suffer in silence.

As an organization that prioritizes whole-family advocacy, we have seen firsthand how Niyyah Recovery Initiative's work is changing lives. Their outreach, education, and direct support have helped countless East African families understand that recovery is possible. They have not only provided life-saving services for those struggling with addiction but have also empowered parents, siblings, and extended family members with the knowledge and resources needed to support their loved ones.

The work of Niyyah Recovery Initiative does not exist in isolation—it is deeply interconnected with the work we do at Mangar Voices. Together, we have supported families facing the dual realities of disability and addiction, ensuring that no one is left behind. Their advocacy and outreach, including their social media engagement, have played a crucial role in normalizing conversations around substance use disorder, making it easier for families to seek help without fear of stigma. We urge you to support SF 2733 and provide Niyyah Recovery Initiative with the funding they need to continue their essential work. This investment will not only help individuals recover but will strengthen entire families and, by extension, our community as a whole. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Maangaar Voices