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Representative Peter Fischer, Chair
Human Behavioral Health Policy Division
Minnesota House of Representatives

March 3, 2021

Dear Chair Fischer and Committee Members

On behalf of South Central Human Relations Center, Inc. (SCHRC), I am sending this letter to support Representative Bierman's House File 1390 – *Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics policy updates*.

SCHRC is a Community Mental Health Center providing a full range of behavioral health services to residents of Dodge, Steele and Waseca Counties, including psychiatry, therapy, skill development and substance use treatment.

As a prospective Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC), community mental/ chemical health program and safety net provider, SCHRC serves clients and communities who would not have access to mental and chemical health care.

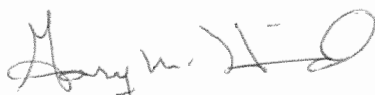
Minnesota's CCBHCs are part of a new model of delivering integrated behavioral health care to Minnesotans. Originally built under a federal demonstration, the legislature passed legislation to transition this great model into a benefit under Medical Assistance.

THANK YOU for passing the authority to transition this model into a Medical Assistance benefit.

As the state's CCBHC model is evolving under a Minnesota-specific care benefit, we are looking to update our statute to align with the model as it continues to evolve, maintaining critical components of the model in our statute and providing better pathways to serve clients with timely and the most appropriate care for them.

Thank you for your consideration and support of the mental health care needs of our communities and our mental health care system in Minnesota. Please support House File 1390.

Sincerely



Gary M. Hird
Executive Director