



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

March 9, 2022

RE: House File 3737 Behavioral Health Homes Rate Structure

Dear Chair Fischer and Members of the Committee:

I write on behalf of Fraser, Minnesota's largest provider of children's mental health services including behavioral health home services for young kids. I am writing to ask for your support of HF 3737 – behavioral health homes rate structure.

Fraser is a certified Behavioral Health Home (BHH) since 2016. Our BHH ensures improved access through coordinated care with primary care, behavioral health and social needs for children, families and adults.

Behavioral health home services allow Fraser staff to provide comprehensive supports and services in coordination with other providers which increases positive outcomes for clients.

Fraser supports this bill (SF 3737) because the current rate structure does not cover the cost of service. This prohibits Fraser and other providers from expanding our program to meet the community need. Increasing the reimbursement rate will allow Fraser to continue serving clients who are already enrolled in services and grow this program to meet client demand.

We know the model of care works! But we need the payment for BHH to be more accurate to the cost of providing the service. This is more important now than ever as we struggle to meet rapidly growing mental health needs of our communities during this workforce and sustainability crisis.

We believe the rate proposal in HF3737 will improve BHH access to more clients each year. A new sustainable payment for BHHs is a major step in keeping providers from continuing to lose money providing this service and being forced to consider closing it.

We ask for your support of this bill to strengthen access to this very important piece of our mental health services continuum.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Abigail Vavra".

Abigail Vavra
Public Policy and Compliance Counsel
Fraser

