



March 8, 2021

Rep. Kristin Bahner
Minnesota House of Representatives
525 State Office Building
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Rep. Bahner,

On behalf of Hennepin Healthcare System and the Minnesota Visiting Nurses Association (MVNA), I am sending this letter to support House File 1197. This bill would establish grants for home visiting programs for pregnant women and families with young children.

Hennepin Healthcare is an integrated system of care. In addition to our nationally recognized hospital, we also have a clinic system with primary care clinics located in Minneapolis and across Hennepin County. Hennepin Healthcare System also houses the MVNA, programs that provide care for people prenatal to birth, disease management, and end of life care. The visiting nurses see patients in the community wherever they call “home”, this includes a residence, care facility or homeless shelter.

As a safety net provider, we serve patients and communities who would not otherwise have access to care. While we strive to serve people from all over the state with the best possible care, we have extensive experience working with pregnant and post-partum patients and their unique needs.

Our Family Home Visiting program promotes family health, development and self-sufficiency. Public Health Nurses (PHNs) provide family-centered services and work with families in their homes and other community settings. These visits promote healthy birth outcomes and positive parent-infant relationships. They encourage the healthy growth and development of infants and young children and promote healthy and safe environments while encouraging family self-sufficiency and use of community resources.

From a financial perspective, home health care provided by public health nurses can improve continuity of care while decreasing overall healthcare costs and that home health care represents an opportunity to reduce preventable adverse events following hospital discharge.

Thank you for authoring this important legislation. If you have questions, please reach out to Susie Emmert at susie.emmert@hcmcd.org or Tara Erickson at Tara@tgeconsultingmn.com.

Sincerely,

Anna Mueller

MVNA