

MAHUBE-OTWA Community Action Partnership, Inc.

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Our Mission... To Empower People to Achieve Self Sufficiency

Leah Pigatti – Executive Director Sarah Ohrmundt – Family Health Director Mahube-Otwa Community Action Partnership, Inc. 1125 West River Road Detroit Lakes, MN 56501

March 29, 2016

Re: HF 3373, HF3374

To Whom It May Concern:

As employees of and strong advocates for non-profit organizations, we are writing to urge you to oppose the recent proposal that would change the way that both Title X and FPSP (Family Planning Special Projects) funds are prioritized and distributed.

Family Planning has been a valuable resource to the low income and undeserved population in central Minnesota for more than 40 years providing physical exams, pregnancy testing, birth control methods and option counseling, STI screening and treatment and community education. To better reach the clients in need of services Mahube-Otwa Community Action Partnership provides 17 family health clinics a month at 7 different service locations which span more than 6 counties. Over the last year, Mahube-Otwa has provided family health services to 763 unduplicated individuals with 94% of these individuals being below 250% of the Federal Poverty Level.

Title X and FPSP are primary sources of funding that facilitate Mahube-Otwa to provide family health services throughout central Minnesota. With proposed funding priorities transitioning first to Community Health Boards, Hospitals, and FQHC's (Federally Qualified Health Centers) non-profit organizations such as Mahube-Otwa Community Action Partnership would no longer be able to provide much needed family planning services to the low income and underserved populations.

As your constituents, we urge you to oppose any efforts that would negatively impact funding opportunities for non-profit entities.

We thank you and appreciate the opportunity to hear our concerns.

Sincerely,

Leah Figure Director

Sarah Ohrmundt MSN, RN, PHN Family Health Director

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