

April 6, 2022

Representative Tina Liebling  
Chair, House Health Finance and Policy Committee

Chair Liebling and Members of the House Health Finance and Policy:

We are writing today to support the inclusion of the Community Solutions for Healthy Child Development Grant Program in HF 4706 as amended. These investments are critically important currently to help address challenges that communities of color and American Indian communities are facing.

The first round of 23 Community Solutions grantees are already digging in and showing innovative solutions. The impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic have added another layer of challenges for young children and their families. The Community Solutions Grant Program is a strategy by which we can address the disparities in resources to specific communities. It brings those who are most impacted into the decision-making process.

We support the Community Solutions Grants because we believe it is a flexible strategy that addresses inequality as well as amplifies the innovative solutions that leverage community assets, are culturally relevant, and center the experiences and dignity of those most impacted by inequity.

Thank you for including this in your omnibus package. The collective health and prosperity of our state is tied to ensuring every child has what they need to thrive.

If you would like to discuss or need any additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Barbara Yates  
President and CEO