



## Minnesota Association of Community Mental Health Programs

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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 Minnesota Association of Community Mental Health Programs (MACMHP), I am sending this letter to support Representative Bierman's House File 1390 – Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics policy updates.

The Minnesota Association of Community Mental Health Programs (MACMHP) is the state's leading association for Community Mental Health Programs, representing 33 community-based mental health providers and agencies across the state. Collectively, we serve over 200,000 Minnesota families, children and adults. Our mission is to serve all who come to us seeking mental and chemical health services, regardless of their insurance status, ability to pay or where they live. As Essential Community Providers, we serve primarily culturally diverse, low-income, uninsured and public healthcare program insured Minnesotans, who cannot access services elsewhere. We serve our clients with comprehensive, coordinated care and love.

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.**

MACMHP has been the main provider association representing the state's Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHC). All eight current CCBHCs are members of our association, and we provide support across all the clinics looking to enter the model. 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

Jin Lee Palen  
Executive Director  
Minnesota Association of Community Mental Health Programs | MACMHP