



Minnesota Association of Community Mental Health Programs

Representative Erin Koegel, Co-Chair
Representative Tim O'Driscoll, Co-Chair
Committee on Commerce
Minnesota House of Representatives
March 18, 2026

Dear Co-Chair Koegel, O'Driscoll and Committee Members

On behalf of the Minnesota Association of Community Mental Health Programs (MACMHP), I am sending this letter to support of Representative Hanson's House File 3904 – Reimbursement parity for clinical trainees delivering mental health and substance use disorder care.

The Minnesota Association of Community Mental Health Programs (MACMHP) is the state's leading association for Community Mental Health Programs, representing 36 community-based mental health programs and CCBHCs across the state. MACMHP's member agencies all provide a spectrum of mental health and substance use disorder services to our communities from the same organization. Providing care in these models means agencies must comply with all the various mental health services' regulations of the state. As essential community providers, MACMHP member clinics serve some our most medically complex individuals with many social and economic challenges.

We are working to build our programs to respond to as many needs of our clients and communities as we can. In this current workforce crisis and sparsely invested mental health and SUD environment, community mental health and SUD programs turn to training and developing the next generation of mental health professionals – clinical trainees.

Trainees are among the backbone of workforce in our outpatient mental health care spaces. Until recently, it was clear these professionals are delivering the same high-quality care services of a licensed professional, under the supervision of their licensed supervisor until they are licensed to practice independently. These services, within a clinical trainee's clinical scope, are the same as every mental health professional and need to be recognized as such across all payor types.

MACMHP thanks this Committee and rest of the legislature for the good work you have done over these several years to continue to build and invest in our mental health systems. We look forward to continue working with you, the Department and our other community partners. We are hopeful for the passage of HF 3904 to ensure our programs can continue to workforce and access needs of our communities.

Thank you for your leadership and support.

Jin Lee Palen
Executive Director