

**Clinic Services** 2220 Plymouth Ave N Minneapolis, MN 55411 Human Services 1256 Penn Ave N, Suite 5300 Minneapolis, MN 55411

Clinic Services: 612.543.2500 Human Services: 612.767.9500 Fax: 612.302.4872 northpointhealth.org

March 27, 2023

Minnesota State Office Building 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Blvd. St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Liebling and Members of the House Finance and Policy Committee:

On behalf of NorthPoint Health & Wellness Center, I am writing to express our support for the Community Health Worker (CHW) line item in the Governor's Supplemental Budget to educate, strengthen, equip, evaluate, and grow the CHW Workforce.

NorthPoint is a community-based multiservice agency serving the culturally and ethnically diverse North Minneapolis community and the nearby northern suburbs. NorthPoint's vision is to set a standard of excellence in providing culturally responsive, integrated, holistic primary health and social services that strengthen our community and the lives of the people we serve.

CHW's are important to our work at NorthPoint because they offer culturally specific education and resources to our community. CHW's are the health equity workforce and provide the link to coverage and care and are an investment in those communities. Their work is trauma-informed, and they are uniquely positioned to improve health outcomes and health equity within our state.

This funding will lead to increased healthcare access, lower healthcare costs and improved health outcomes for your constituents facing health inequities and barriers to care.

NorthPoint respectfully urges you to support the funding for CHW's in the Governor's Budget.

Sincerely,

Stella Whitney - West

Stella Whitney-West, CEO, NorthPoint Health & Wellness Center, Inc.