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FOUNDATION

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**Here for good.**

Chair Fischer & members of the Human Services Policy Committee

Adrián Rafael Magaña | Director of Public Policy & Community Relations |  
Amherst H Wilder Foundation

Support for HF 1683 – Targeted Long-Term Rate Reforms for Intensive Mental  
Health Services

February 27, 2023

Dear Chair Fischer and Committee Members

On behalf of the Amherst H. Wilder Foundation, I am sending this letter to support **Representative Bierman's House File 1683 – Targeted Long-Term Rate Reform for Intensive Mental Health Services.**

The Amherst H. Wilder Foundation is a nonprofit community organization that creates lasting, positive change rooted in people through direct services, research and community building. We combine knowledge, compassion and action to improve lives today and for generations to come.

Current workforce crises, capacity shortages and lacking infrastructure limits us, and our mental health system, from meeting intensive mental health services needs that has resulted in children and adults having to access hospital level of care instead. This trend is overwhelming hospitals, financially straining our state, and most importantly is not the appropriate treatment model for our community members in need of intensive mental health services.

We support HF 1683's proposals to support services with cost-based or state set rates that are structurally unable to keep pace with service demands, inflationary pressures and facility improvement needs. Proposals in this bill include:

\*Allowance for estimated staffing costs/ investments in cost-based rates.

\*Coverage of room/ board costs for residential services to MNCare enrollees.

\*Establish a single, streamlined rate structure for BHH, including an annual inflation adjustor.

\*Establish a cost-settlement process for PRTFs and an annual inflation adjustor.

By enacting these proposals, service providers will be better equipped to increase service capacity for intensive mental health services and therefore better meet the intensive mental health service needs of children and adults. Please support Representative Bierman's HF 1683.

Thank you for your consideration and support of the mental health needs of our clients, communities, children and families.

Sincerely

Adrián Rafael Magaña | Director of Public Policy & Community Relations | Wilder Foundation  
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Magaña', with a large, sweeping flourish extending upwards and to the right.