



March 17, 2023

Chair Liebling and Members of the Health Finance and Policy Committee,

Nexus Family Healing urges the support and passage of HF346 which addresses the critical underfunding of mental health services needed by countless Minnesotans.

Nexus Family Healing is an organization that provides services across the continuum from high end residential care to statewide foster care and community-based prevention and treatment services. We are acutely aware of the need for a robust system of care that includes community mental health services where and when families need them. Without this, mental health needs metastasize and need higher intensity services to address them.

With the current Medicaid rates covering roughly 45% of what it actually costs to provide services, we have had to pull back our services to Counties. Nexus is a leader in a model of treatment, Systemic Family Therapy, that has shown terrific results in preventing youth with mental health needs from being removed from their families. Without this help in funding while the more permanent rate fix is worked on for the next few years, this inability to provide needed services will continue and only grow.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Margaret Vimont'.

Margaret Vimont, LCSW
Vice President of Strategy and Service Development
Nexus Family Healing