



The Kid Experts™

April 10, 2024

House Human Services Finance Committee

Chair Noor and Committee Members:

On behalf of Children's Minnesota, I am writing in support of HF4047, which invests in a hospital to home nursing pilot program that would facilitate pediatric hospital-to-home discharges by investing in home care nursing that would improve clinical outcomes, increase family support and reduce the total cost of care.

Children's Minnesota is the largest pediatric health system in the state serving more than 160,000 kids annually. We serve a diverse patient population and nearly 50% of the patients we care for are insured through Medicaid.

A critical service we provide to patients is our home care program. We know that our complex patients who no longer require hospital level care can benefit from high quality nursing care at home. Unfortunately access to this kind of care is limited due to workforce shortages, inadequate insurance coverage and the need to increase reimbursement rates for home care nursing. This lack of access leads to patients who are medically ready to discharge being stuck in the hospital. While the number of patients this impacts at Children's Minnesota is small when compared to our overall patient population, these patients last year collectively spent hundreds of extra days in the hospital when they could have been cared for at home.

Investing in the pilot program outlined in HF4047 will provide vital information and services that will inform important system changes and provide critical support for children and families. I encourage your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amanda Jansen". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Amanda Jansen, MPP
Director of Public Policy
Children's Minnesota