



February 13, 2023

Dear Legislators,

On behalf of the City of Roseville, we recommend inclusion of SF 1304 and HF 1265 in any 2023 capital investment package to support Keystone Community Services' request for \$2.6 million in funding to renovate and equip a new community food site to support Ramsey County residents with health food and household items.

The new community food site proposed by Keystone will bring a much-needed asset to Saint Paul and suburban Ramsey County and will provide more food and crisis resources to over 50,000 people by 2024. The need for this new site is more urgent than ever as the number of people who need food resources has doubled in the past year due to high food and gas prices, and high housing costs. Low-income households are hit harder by inflation when their monthly income does not increase at the same rate as the cost of basic food items like milk, eggs, and meat.

We value the significant community input Keystone has gathered from participants, volunteers and community members to design the new community food site. Features of the new food site include a large warehouse area to store and distribute more food and goods on site and for use with their Foodmobile program. The center has a large shopping area for participants as well as a community room for events and space for Resource Navigators to deliver crisis supports. An investment of \$2.6 million from the state will be matched by an additional investment of \$8.1 million from the City of St. Paul, community foundations, local government grants, businesses and individual donors.

We look forward to the future partnership between the City of Roseville and Keystone Community Services at the new site to support our community. The increased functionality for Foodmobiles at this proposed new facility is especially important to Roseville because Foodmobiles are a major way our residents are being served by Keystone.

Please support this request from Keystone Community Services with a onetime investment of \$2.6 million to ensure that healthy food resources are available for all in our community who need them.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Roe Mayor