

Date: January 31, 2023

To: Chair Noor and Members of the Human Service Finance Committee

From: Angela Parks
Chevs Place/Adult Foster Care
7819 188th Lane NW
Anoka, MN 55303

Subject: DWRS, workforce crisis and effects on Family Foster care/FRS homes

Hi there. I have been providing family foster care since 2012. My current resident has been with me for 7 years. I fear that we would be separated and would be unsure of her future cares if our wages were reduced.

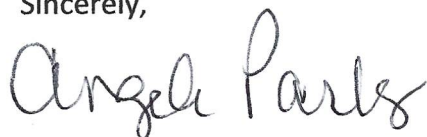
I am sending you this letter in support of the Best Life Alliance Legislation. We need to be able to pay staff an adequate wage so that we can keep qualified staff. The current workforce shortage impacts both CRS and FRS homes as we fight to get adequate staff to work in the homes and help care for our people.

Just because we live in our own homes we should not be paid less for staff as we are there working just as hard and most often get very limited time off as we can't find and keep staff due to the low wages set up in the framework. I also cannot work another job as my client needs 24/7 care.

Please help us both CRS and FRS providers, improve the services we can provide by improving our rates to find and keep good staff. We choose to care for those with disabilities, but we did not go into this thinking we could or would not be able to pay staff a wage to keep them working.

Please support the Best Life Alliance Legislation, it is important to all with disabilities.

Sincerely,



Angela Parks, Owner
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