



20 March 2023

Health Finance and Policy Committee
Minnesota House of Representatives
75 Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Liebling, Vice Chair Bierman, and members of the Health Finance and Policy Committee,

I am writing in support of the important investments in home visiting that are included in subsection (o) in HF 2930 on the Department of Health budget.

As the Government Affairs Manager for Nurse-Family Partnership, I support our 7 home visiting programs serving families across 35 counties in the state. Home visiting is a voluntary, proven service where trained home visitors and parents work together to strengthen and support families in the child's first years of life. Over the last 23 years, Nurse-Family Partnership nurse home visitors have partnered with Minnesota families beginning during pregnancy and continuing until the child is two years old to empower these families to realize better pregnancy outcomes, improved child development, and greater economic self-sufficiency. The home visitor is a trusted resource whose goal is to empower parents to set a successful life course for themselves and their family.

Nurse-Family Partnership is one of several home visiting models in the state that serve the varying needs of Minnesota families through their different approaches and resources. No one model or program is the best fit for all families. There is strength in having a portfolio of options so that we are able to achieve the aim of targeted universalism by providing all Minnesota families with the best type of support for their needs.

Included in HF 2930 under subsection (o) are provisions appropriating \$12,500,000 in fiscal year 2024 and \$12,500,000 in fiscal year 2025 from the general fund to start up or expand home visiting programs for priority populations under Minnesota Statutes, section 145.87. Notably, the revised Department of Health budget proposal is for \$15,000,000 for family home visiting programs for each fiscal year, which would advance needed services even further. This funding is an essential investment in growing the ability of proven home visiting programs to serve more Minnesota families. With this funding, more families will receive the supports that are proven to help them overcome economic and social barriers.

I am happy to connect further at any time. Thank you for your service to Minnesota families!

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