

February 21, 2023

Dear Representative Acomb and Senator Morrison:

On behalf of the Native American Community Clinic, we strongly endorse "Medicaid Support for Recuperative Care Services." We believe that this bundled payment under a simple daily rate structure is a strong preventative health practice that will improve the health outcomes among our American Indian community, as well as lower the public resource burden for achieving those improved outcomes.

This service is an appropriate allocation of resources to offer patients experiencing acute medical conditions who lack the basic needs for their recovery such as access to stable food, shelter, hygiene, and transportation. When these needs are not met, the reoccurrence of hospitalization increases and leads to higher cost outcomes and exhausts resources. We believe that having Medicaid Support for Recuperative Care would help to prevent rehospitalization for people who are discharged from the hospital.

Further coordination of care through this program would additionally prevent negative health outcomes by developing and strengthening relationships between providers and patients. We believe that attending to relational ties made through community health services is a foundational aspect of our culturally informed approach.

The coordination of these resources provides the opportunity for our clinic to partner with a housing provider to incorporate housing into our services and ensure culturally specific recuperative care services for American Indians lacking stable housing.

NACC is aware of the critical community needs this bill addresses. Even with the Twin Cities' strong community health center network, many of our patients are still experiencing unsafe and unstable recovery environments.

NACC endorses this bill and strongly supports addressing the basic conditions for health among our most vulnerable community members.

Sincerely,

Antony Štately, PhD President + Executive Officer