



January 23, 2024

Chair Fischer  
Human Services Policy Committee  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Fischer and Committee Members:

Minnesota's Prenatal to Three Coalition (PN-3) represents a diverse group of stakeholders supporting policies and programs aimed at ensuring infants, toddlers and families with young children have the best start in life regardless of income, geography, or race. We write today to urge your support to increase Medicaid mental health reimbursement rates.

PN-3 Coalition supports this increase in Medicaid mental health reimbursement rates because it will improve the ability of community-based organizations and public agencies to pay providers to perform critical care for services to children and families. If rates do not cover the cost of care, agencies are forced to raise funds through co-pays or private resources, or not provide the care.

Young children and youth are presenting with more complex mental health challenges than in the past. For example, children as young as two or three years of age, are finding themselves removed from early learning settings because they pose a threat to other young children or themselves. We cannot afford to have people leave the field or have agencies close because they cannot afford to pay staff and provide services to families.

We urge you to act today and support increased Medicaid children's mental health reimbursement rates.

Thank you,

Laura LaCroix-Dalluhn  
MN Prenatal to Three (PN-3) Coalition,  
Coalition Coordinator

Deb Fitzpatrick,  
Children's Defense Funds-MN,  
Co-Chair

Nancy Jost,  
West Central Initiative,  
Co-Chair