

March XX, 2021

The Honorable Susan Eggman
Chair
Senate Budget Subcommittee #3
State Capitol, Room 4052
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Joaquin Arambula
Chair
Assembly Budget Subcommittee #1
State Capitol, Room 5155
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support Community Navigators/COVID- 19 Related Support for Child Welfare and Serves Funding in FY 2021-2022 Budget

Dear Chairwoman Eggman and Chairman Arambula:

On behalf of *(insert name)*, I urge you to support two measures proposed in the Governor's FY 21-22 budget that will provide critical support for Family Resource Centers (FRCs). Specifically, we urge you to support the Community Navigators proposal under the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) and the COVID-19 Related Supports For Child Welfare Services. Providing funding for FRCs is critical to continue to address the needs of children and families across the state, especially those who have been hit the hardest by the COVID-19 pandemic.

FRCs play a vital role in communities, serving as conduit that helps connect children and families to resources and services that help lessen the everyday stressors. Our leadership and organization, in particular, offers a unique skillset that provide family strengthening services that are community based and culturally sensitive. Our mission has been committed to helping children and families by providing high quality care to the most vulnerable populations. In this time of unprecedented public health crisis, children, and families, now more than ever, count on our support and guidance to help connect them to essential county, state and federal services and programs.

Throughout the pandemic, our organization has worked diligently to support the most vulnerable in our communities to help provide direct support and services to children and families in need, including case management, mental health services, housing support, crisis support, support for children engaged in distance learning, including the provision of laptops, tablets and headsets, and access to basic survival items, such as food, diapers and hygiene products, and etc. Providing FRCs with support to, in turn, support our communities will ensure the State's commitment to children and families is met head-on.

FRCs are the lifelines to families during these challenging times and it is imperative that we receive adequate funding to continue to address the urgent needs of children and families in our communities during this unprecedented crisis.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss these issues further, please contact Dawn Koepke with McHugh Koepke & Associates at (916) 930-1993 or dkoopke@mchughgr.com. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Name

Title

Organization

Contact Information