

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: Family Resource Centers – COVID-19 Response & DDS Community Navigators  
– SUPPORT**

Dear Chairwoman Eggman and Chairman Arambula:

On behalf of XXXX, I am pleased to strongly support the Governor's budget proposals for Family Resource Centers (FRCs) under funding for COVID-19 Child Welfare Services and the Department of Developmental Services Community Navigator proposals.

<<<DESCRIPTION OF ORGANIZATION>>>

XXX FRC is a key delivery network of services and conduit to strengthening families via family-centered, community-based and culturally sensitive services that include cross-system collaboration as a means to prevent child abuse and neglect in XXX city/community/county.

We greatly appreciate the recognition of the important support FRCs provide within communities statewide. We were pleased to participate in the funding allocation to support children and families via the 2020 COVID-19 allocation. With that support, we were able to serve XXX individuals via XXX, XXX, and XXX services.

We were unfortunately not able to access the 2020 COVID-19 funding for FRCs to support our community, but look forward to the opportunity to do so in this budget cycle. That said, it is imperative to ensure sufficient funding to address the needs across the state.

While we greatly appreciate the funding contemplated for FRCs to support children and families struggling amid the impacts of the pandemic, we strongly recommend the Legislature and Administration consider allocating additional funding to ensure FRCs statewide are able to continue to serve the children and families in their communities – many of whom are the most marginalized among us. Given the significant needs within communities statewide amid the impacts of the pandemic, the fact that not all counties/FRCs were supported during the 2020 allocation, and based on the funding received and spent on the needs of children and families in 2020, we are concerned the current proposed allocation will not ensure we have sufficient resources to continue the needed services through the FY 21-22 budget cycle.

It is also worth highlighting the role FRCs, including ours in (city/county), have played as community navigators in promoting and connectivity to the Affordable Care Act and Covered California; Franchise Tax Board for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC); California Department of Social Services for immigration related education and support, including Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA); and disaster-relief, post-fire and earthquakes.

FRCs and the community navigator approaches they pursue are all proven, successful strategies designed to strengthen families to prevent child abuse and neglect.

We strongly support the Administration's and Department's proposal to include FRCs in the DDS Community Navigator proposal and commit to continuing to fully support the needs of children and families within the regional center system in our communities.

We greatly appreciate your support of the Administration's budget proposals to provide support for FRCs to support children and families in need of COVID-19 support and community navigation for families within the regional center system. Supporting community-centered, evidence-informed, and culturally-responsive services for families across the state is beyond appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact XXX at (XXX) XXX-XXXX or <<email>>. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Name

Title

Organization

Contact Information