Chris O'Brien

From: Georgia DiMatteo < georgia.e.dimatteo@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, April 24, 2025 11:41 AM

To: House Finance Committee

Subject: Support of the Family Home Visiting bill H-6073

Chair Abney House Finance Committee Rhode Island State House

Re: Support of the Family Home Visiting bill H-6073

Dear Chair Abney and members of the Committee,

My name is Georgia DiMatteo, I live in Bristol and I have been receiving Parents As Teachers (PAT) services through Looking Upwards since late 2023. This program is important to our family for many reasons. Our parent educator and the other members of the Looking Upwards PAT team have provided a wealth of information about the development of children in an easy to comprehend and accessible way. This information has allowed me and my husband to feel better prepared to manage the different stages in our daughter's life. Additionally, our parent educator has consistently been a non judgemental and warm presence in our lives where we have felt heard, validated, and well supported. She and the others at Looking Upwards were also paramount in helping me address and make sense ofpostpartum symptoms that I experienced in the months following my daughter's birth and have helped me make connections to other mothers in my community. This program has helped me feel more secure and supported as a new parent has had an overall positive impact on my family's life thus far!

Please ensure PAT home visiting services continue by passing the Home Visiting Act!

Sincerely, Georgia DiMatteo