



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,

CCAP Healthy Families America (HFA) and Parent's As Teacher's (PAT) writes in strong support of Rep Giraldo's Home Visiting bill H6073 and encourages you to ensure that Rhode Island adequately funds the state's home visiting programs.

CCAP family visiting programs serve pregnant families and families with children 0-5. We provide in home visits to families when they are at their most vulnerable, when pregnant and after having a new baby. We provide long term education, resources and continued support to help babies and families thrive.

One of our HFA families wrote...

"It's amazing having a home visitor make sure your child is on track with their development because I learned that kids their age are capable of doing so much more than what I imagined! I truly loved that my home visitor would always ask "is there anything I could look into for you?" So I knew it wasn't just about what they're expected to present to us but the fact that she cared enough to see if there was something else we needed since every child and family go through different obstacles and challenges. This specific program is full of amazing home visitors that make you feel like you're part of the family and that your kids are truly special! I love going to events to see how the home visitors interact with their families but also how they interact with us! I always leave with a smile on my face. Thank you all for everything you do ♡ I could go on and on talking about all of the amazing things I love about this program but I'll keep this short..."

As required in H6073, Rhode Island must meet the state funding matching requirements for the federal Maternal Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) funds to draw down federal funds so that high-quality programs are offered to all families who could benefit.

In FY25, Rhode Island was one of only 3 states that did not spend the required amount to draw down the full amount. **For FFY26, Rhode Island should make the \$355,374 investment in order to receive \$1.6 million to fund these vital programs.** This relatively small investment is not included in the Governor's proposed FY26 budget and we do not think RIDOH currently has the funds to meet the match. We urge you pass H6073 to add the \$355,0374 into the RIDOH budget to ensure we can meet the federal match.

We also support the increased reporting requirements included in H6073 so that the general assembly can help ensure the ongoing sustainability of these important programs.

Thank you,

Wendy Lincoln, Ma CLC, IMH-E®
Program Manager HFA & PAT
Comprehensive Community Action Program (CCAP)
401 602-9356

ADMINISTRATION / DORIC CENTER / SOCIAL SERVICES

311 Doric Avenue • Cranston, RI 02910 • 401.467.9610 phone • 401.467.9030 fax

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