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March 24, 2026

The Honorable Melissa A. Murray  
Honorable Members of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee  
State of Rhode Island General Assembly

RE: Support for S3065 – Mobile Response and Stabilization Services  
Reimbursement

Dear Chair Murray and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in strong support of S3065, require that reimbursement rates for certified mobile response and stabilization services (MRSS) be equal to or greater than the prevailing integrated state Medicaid rate for mobile response and stabilizations services as established by EOHHS.

Child & Family's mission is to strengthen individuals, families, and the communities in which they live by identifying needs and utilizing best practices. As one of Rhode Island's oldest and most comprehensive human service organizations, we provide a wide range of programs spanning early childhood, behavioral health, education, family support, and services for older adults. Each year, we serve thousands of Rhode Islanders through evidence-based, trauma-informed programs designed to promote stability, well-being, and long-term success across the lifespan.

Mobile response and stabilization services are a critical component of Rhode Island's behavioral health crisis system. These services provide immediate, in-home and community-based intervention for children and youth experiencing acute mental health crises—often preventing unnecessary emergency department visits, hospitalizations, or involvement with law enforcement. MRSS keeps children safely in their homes and connected to their families, schools, and communities.

While Rhode Island has made important progress in building out this system, inadequate and inconsistent reimbursement across payers threatens its sustainability. To be effective, this model must be funded at a level that allows providers to operate with fidelity—ensuring timely response, adequate staffing,

and high-quality, evidence-based care. S3065 is a critical step in requiring both Medicaid and commercial insurers to reimburse at rates that will sustain the model and support consistent, statewide access.

Equally important, sustained funding is necessary to support services for uninsured and underinsured children and youth, as well as costs that are not otherwise reimbursable through Medicaid or commercial insurance. Without this investment, providers are left to absorb uncompensated care, placing additional strain on an already fragile system and limiting access for the most vulnerable families.

By establishing a minimum reimbursement standard tied to Medicaid rates, S3065 will:

- Promote equitable access to crisis services regardless of insurance status
- Strengthen provider capacity and workforce stability
- Ensure fidelity to the evidence-based mobile crisis model
- Reduce reliance on higher-cost and more restrictive levels of care

Simply put, this legislation—paired with adequate reimbursement across payers—is about aligning financing with best practice. When properly funded, mobile crisis services improve outcomes for children and families while reducing overall system costs.

I respectfully urge the Committee to support passage of S3065 and to ensure the full funding structure needed to sustain this critical service for all Rhode Island children and families.

Thank you for your consideration and your continued leadership on behalf of Rhode Island's children and families.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan Jacobsen, LMHC  
President & CEO  
Child & Family Rhode Island