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Agency/Point of Contact: Neerja Singh Department of Human Services

Title of Request: Repurpose funding in Action Order #9 for Pediatric Residential Treatment Facilities

Date: 6/23/2022 **Request Amount:** \$ 2,860,000

Expenditure Time Period: 11/1/2021 to 6/30/2023 (no later than 6/30/2023)

Brief Summary of Request: (Summary must be complete on this page with supporting information attached)

This proposal would modify Action Order #9 by allowing the Commissioner to provide funding to providers who have an active PRTF contract with the State and are actively working towards establishing PRTF services for children as of June 30, 2022, and meet all other criteria for eligibility.

Minnesota Department of Human Services is requesting permission to re-purpose the \$2.86 million authorized by the Legislative COVID-19 Response Commission (LCRC) Action Order #9 LCRC to provide stopgap funding to accommodate transition of children from emergency departments and inpatient hospitals to Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities (PRTFs). COVID-19 has exacerbated mental health conditions for many children. Hospitals have been unable to transition these children to a more appropriate type of care due to diminished capacity of mental health residential facilities. Action Order #9 stipulated that in order to be eligible for funding a PRTF must be operational as a PRTF and actively accepting children as of June 1, 2022.

The PRTF model in the State has been developed to provide safe therapeutic mental health care to children with complex needs. At this time we have three operational PRTFs in the State, and DHS is working with them to provide above-mentioned funding to build infrastructure to transition children from hospitals. One provider (North Homes Children and Family Services in Grand Rapids) has an active PRTF contract with DHS and is working to complete all the certifications required to be certified as PRTF which requires intensive work with multiple state agencies including DHS, MDH and MDE. However, the provider did not meet the conditions for receiving funding under Action Order #9 because it was not accepting admissions as a PRTF as of June 1, 2022. The provider will be able to access funding approximately upto \$500,000 (like other PRTF providers) to provide services to children with high and complex needs.

The need for transitioning children to PRTFs is great, and North Homes is willing to transition children from hospitals to its current program, if they are able to create additional staffing and infrastructure resources to meet the needs of these children, while they work towards their PRTF certifications. Given the current crisis we are facing as a State to transition children from hospitals, we can help North Homes by providing support using these funds to accept children, while they consolidate their efforts to become fully operational as PRTF.

Jodi Harpstead

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Date: 2022.06.24 11:25:57 -05'00'

Department Head Signature

6/24/2022

Date