

SB2012

Chairman Nelson and members of the House Appropriations Committee

March 10, 2023

RE: Family Voices of North Dakota

Dear Mr. Chairman,

On behalf of the North Dakota State Council on Developmental Disabilities (NDSCDD) Consumer Leadership Committee, I am pleased to submit this letter of support for Family Voices of North Dakota (FVND) and to support their funding request in the budget to continue services provided by the FVND to families across the state.

The NDSCDD recognizes the need for continued leadership coordination and collaboration in the following areas across North Dakota: 1) Assist families of Children Special Health Care Needs make informed choices about health care in order to promote good treatment decisions, cost effectiveness and improved health outcomes; 2) Provide information regarding the health care needs of and resources available for Children Special Health Care Needs; 3) Identify successful health delivery models; 4) Develop with representatives of health care providers, managed care organizations, health care purchasers, and appropriate State agencies, a model for collaboration between families of Children Special Health Care Needs and health professionals; 5) Provide training and guidance regarding the care of Children Special Health Care Needs; 6) Conduct outreach activities to families, health professionals, schools and other appropriate entities; and 7) Be staffed by such families who have expertise in Federal and State public and private health care systems and health providers.

The NDSCDD looks forward to working collaboratively as a community partner to FVND in the development of family supports, ongoing partnerships, and leadership development. The work they do is important and needed in our state.

Sincerely,

Trevor Vannett and Consumer Leadership Committee Members, NDSCDD