SB 2113 (2025 LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY) SENATE HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE HONORABLE JUDY LEE, CHAIRMAN JANUARY 8, 2025 TESTIMONY OF BRUCE MURRY FOR FRASER, LTD

Greetings, Chairman Lee and members of the Senate Human Services Committee. I am Bruce Murry, registered lobbyist for Fraser LTD (Fraser) of Fargo, North Dakota. Today, I am especially speaking for Fraser's Valley Hope Counseling program, <u>http://fraserltd.org/services/valley-hope-counseling</u>.

The proposal of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to reimagine its Human Services Centers as Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHC) is exciting. We would welcome this infrastructure and process in the Fargo area.

We would most pleased to partner with HHS as they explore this exciting idea to serve North Dakotans with mental illness and substance abuse needs in a wraparound model. Skillfully wrapping the right services at the right time around the individual has a history of success.

Fraser's Valley Hope Counseling program also seeks more support for the education of mental health professionals. We would like to expand our professional staff, and any supports the State can offer reduce the risk of expansion to smaller behavioral health providers.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today and I'd be happy to answer your questions.