From: <u>Downie, Sara J</u>

To: #County Board Recipients; Krohn, Margaret

Subject: Written Comment: Monday 10/23 Dane County Personnel & Finance Committee

Date: Sunday, October 22, 2023 10:04:12 PM

Attachments: image003.pnq

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To whom it may concern:

Regarding: 2023 ACT-186 Board of Health Amendments to the Proposed 2024 Operating Budget and the Nurse home visiting amendment, <u>P&F-O-01</u>

I would like to declare my support of funding to cover two additional perinatal Public Health nurses to help shorten (or hopefully eliminate) the waitlist that they've had for nearly a year. I've been a nurse and nurse manager in OB care at Access Community Health Centers for over 25 years and have seen the positive impact firsthand that Public Health Nurses can have with our perinatal patients. Nurse-Family Partnership and Prenatal Care Coordination are proven programs that provide relatively low cost solutions to health inequities in our communities. These nurses have worked closely with Access clinics over the years to provide comprehensive and coordinated care for many expecting and new mothers that would otherwise not have that support. We know that earlier prenatal care and public health nurse support improve pregnancy outcomes for both the mom and baby, and we cannot afford to have moms on waiting lists for these services.

Sincerely.

Sara J. Downie

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