



**An association of resources and advocacy for children, youth and families**  
[www.aspiremn.org](http://www.aspiremn.org)

April 7, 2026

Dear Chair Hoffman and Members of the Human Services Committee,

AspireMN is a statewide association of children and family serving organizations with delivery of care in children's mental health, child welfare, and a variety of service models oriented to provide early intervention for families, meet critical needs and promote family preservation.

We appreciate this committee's consideration of SF4710, especially provisions that speak to the need for enhanced SUD care for young people.

At the end of 2025 the association conducted a survey of members to better understand access to outpatient SUD care. This snapshot found that:

- Three out of eighteen organizations offer outpatient SUD care for youth
- Six organizations of eighteen have formal partnerships to refer youth for SUD care.
- Eight organizations reported that they lack a referral source for youth who are in need of SUD care.

We also know that access to SUD residential care is extremely challenging for children and youth. Additionally as professionals from across our child serving continuum gather weekly within the Mental Health Collaboration Hub to seek solutions for children experiencing boarding in hospitals, detention, and with counties we hear regular occurrences of children boarding due to appropriate settings that can address the child's complex needs – including SUD care.

SF4710 takes two significant strides forward for children and youth in need of sophisticated pediatric care for SUD services – by addressing rates to deliver residential treatment, and, seeking to review where rates should be for outpatient care. We are grateful to the committee for your work on this proposal and encourage your continued support for children and youth in need of SUD care.

Warm regards,

Kirsten Anderson  
Executive Director

**AspireMN improves the lives of children, youth and families served by member organizations through support for quality service delivery, leadership development and policy advocacy.**