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On Behalf
Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Human
Services

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Good morning- Co Chairs Valderrama and Campos and members of the committee. My name is Todd Noble and I am the Health Administrator and PH Director for Linn County. I will briefly touch on Emergency preparedness and Maternal child Health First EP -If we have learned anything from the pandemic modest investment at the local level in Emergency preparedness needs to be the priority. As a state we were not prepared at the local level in part because emergency preparedness is underfunded. Currently EP only funds a part time position. In Linn County we were fortunate to have been one of the few counties to fully manage and operationalize the mass vaccination efforts with the assistance of volunteers from the medical reserve corps, and did not have to rely on the overburdened hospital system to operate mass vaccination efforts. Every county should as a minimum have one full-time position. We need supply and resource lists for every region, access to our own supplies and cross county and cross region coordination so the next time we have an emergency we will be prepared and not have to scramble.

Maternal child health. We have to start playing the long game. The long game is an investment in our collective future well beyond our careers if we're going to win the social, emotional, and health outcomes that we seek. Evidence-based early family intervention such as nurse family partnership needs to be the foundation. The purposes of those programs are to take someone, meet them where they're at, and help them find their own way to a better life. This is even in regard to the way they were raised.

Countless studies have now shown that running these programs at a very high level without diverting resources to new trends but consistently investing will result in higher graduation rates, lower incarceration rates for both mother and child, and most importantly better lives for everyone in the communities.

According to the Nurse Families Partnership research trials and outcomes from 2022 maternal child health service shows a 48% reduction in child abuse and neglect, 56% reduction in ER visits for accidents and poisonings, 50% reduction in language delays of children aged 21 months, 67% less behavioral/intellectual problems at age 6, 61% fewer arrests of the mother and 59% reduction in child arrests at age 15. Families themselves look different today than they did in decades past, but families are still the foundation of our society and family supports maternal child health services should be held in high regard and receive significant investment.

