## March 27, 2025



Good afternoon, Chair Hartman, Vice-Chairs Nguyen and Scharf, and members of the committee.

My name is Andre Veillet, and I am the Director of Finance at Shangri-La. We are a nonprofit organization, annually supporting 1000 people with disabilities and families with disadvantages. I support HB 2150 with the -1 amendment.

Over the four years I have held my position, I have seen nominal increases in rates for I/DD services while we have seen the cost-of-living increase year in and year out. This makes it very difficult for providers like Shangri-La to retain our skilled, caring Direct Support Professionals who are a provider like ours lifeblood.

## I am asking for your help in:

- Funding a 1-time immediate increase in the rates so we are able to pass this on to our Direct Support
  Professionals, take care of the homes people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities live in, and add back positions that have had to be cut due to underfunding.
- Build into the rates a cost-of-living increase that will allow the Direct Support Professionals to maintain a standard of living on par with inflation.

| I am | humbly | asking y | ou all to p | olease supp | ort HB 2150 | , with the -1 | amendment. |
|------|--------|----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|------------|
|------|--------|----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|------------|

Thank you,

Andre Veillet

**Director of Finance** 

Shangri-La