

Schesny, Rebecca

From: ssstrong <ssstrong@tds.net>
Sent: Thursday, November 2, 2023 2:20 PM
To: Early Childhood Care and Education Committee
Subject: ECCEC meeting

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Hello,

I had hoped to testify on behalf of the Respite Center funding decision this afternoon. Unfortunately, I am stuck at an appointment and am not sure what time I will be done.

So, I am sending this to thank the City for the on going support of the Respite Center. We continue to exceed the number of children and families we project to serve annually and the need continues to rise. We are funded by the City of Madison and Dane County and need to fill an almost 20% funding gap annually through donations.

I am requesting that the city consider increasing what is allocated annually for childcare. \$510,000 just isn't enough to meet the need. I noticed that there is the proposal to consider a 10% increase. Although it still would mean that the Respite Center's annual funding from the City would be less than previous years, the increase would be welcomed.

I will still try to call in if I am able but won't be able to speak.

Thank you,

Scott Strong
Executive Director
RISE

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