

My name is Ann Dillenbeck, and I'm the Children's Integrated Services (CIS) Coordinator in Chittenden County.

I would like to give you a brief description of CIS and then offer some comments about S.261.

CIS is a statewide prevention and early intervention program that offers child development and family support services. It is delivered through a network of 12 regional contracts and a variety of agencies.

CIS clients include pregnant and postpartum women, infants and children birth to age six and their families, and early care and education programs.

S.261 references the work accomplished through CIS in several places, though in the current draft does not specifically reference CIS. I have some suggestions for recognizing CIS more overtly in the bill:

1. On page 10, Section 7, I recommend changing the title of the proposed new Section 3406 to add the phrase CIS, so it would read, "EXPANSION OF PEDIATRIC PRIMARY CARE AND CIS HOME VISITING PARTNERSHIPS." This change would recognize the fact that home-visiting in Vermont occurs through CIS.
2. On page 16, Section 15, Children with Incarcerated Parents, I do not have a recommendation for new language, but would like to highlight for this Committee that CIS is a key existing program in each child's community that addresses childhood trauma, toxic stress, and resilience-building.
3. On page 19, section 19, I am working with Sonya Raymond of VAEYC, who testified last week on this bill, to develop language that recognized CIS' role in training for employees of early care and education and afterschool programs on the use of trauma-informed practices. We will make a joint recommendation to you in the next day or two.

Thank you for your consideration,

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