Dear Members of the House and Senate.

As the Community Care Specialist for the Northeast Kingdom Community Action Parent Child Center, I write to you in advocacy of funding the essential work that my team does. The base funding for our eight core services should undoubtedly be at ten million over the next three years. This funding is essential for our most vulnerable children. In fact, this funding is the hope for our children to thrive in a world where they often find themselves in "clubs" that they have never signed up to be in. These clubs have titles such as hunger, homelessness, neglect and abuse. They are often established from limited resources and thrive on the lack of connection and no sense of belonging. I ask for you to take a moment to rethink the way you see childhood poverty. To relook at accountability. To take action on your own behalf to continue to fund Parent Child Centers. Through the Parent Center Programming we are always rethinking and relooking childhood poverty. With your support to rethink, relook and take action together, our children get their childhood back. They get their community back and we will ALL have access to the most wonderful clubs now named resilience, strong families and prosperity.

Thank you for your continued support of the Parent Child Center and your time and attention to the Parent Child Center Bill. The work we do together will be carried throughout many generations. Thank you for supporting continued hope.

Kindly, Bobbie Lepine Northeast Kingdom Community Action Parent Child Center Community Care Specialist.