

Name: Addison Williams

Town: Burlington, VT

Dear representatives –

My name is Addison Williams. I am writing to you from Burlington as a member of the Hunger Free Vermont Board of Directors and a concerned citizen. I am encouraging you to please support Bridges to Health with an appropriation of \$500,000 for FY2027.

Bridges to Health has 8 regionally based Community Health Workers, a Program Coordinator and 60+ volunteers address needs identified by the communities they serve. Community Health Workers:

- Provide navigational support within an increasingly complex and complicated health system
- Serve as liaisons, cultural brokers, health educators, advocates, and interpreters between individuals and community-based organizations
- Empower clients to make timely health decisions
- Promote health, reduce disparities, and improve service delivery
- Improve access to care and quality of life at an individual, family and household level
- Coordinate outreach efforts in collaboration with local health and social service organizations to assist them in enhancing services and addressing systemic barriers to care

To reiterate, I am encouraging you to please support Bridges to Health with an appropriation of \$500,000 for FY2027.

Thank you to the committee for considering this request.

Best regards,

Addison

*Addison Williams*