

CIS – UNDERFUNDING SERVICES FOR AT-RISK CHILDREN

Children’s Integrated Service (CIS) maximizes young children’s health, development, and learning by providing individualized support to families and early care and education programs. These essential and federally mandated services – Early Intervention, specialized child care, early childhood and family mental health services, home visiting, and case coordination – are designed to lessen, if not eliminate, the need for future services that are costlier and less efficient.

Last year, an external review of CIS reimbursement rates determined that the cost of providing services was \$738 per client per month, far below the current monthly per member/per month (PM/PM) rate of \$650.

This funding shortfall has a significant negative impact on service delivery. Community agencies lack the staff necessary to provide services as frequently as needed and or as required under federal law. Low payment rates lead to increased staff turnover and vacancy rates.

FY26 BUDGET REQUEST – \$450,000 FOR \$25 PM/PM INCREASE

The Alliance and CIS providers are requesting additional funding of \$450,000 in the FY26 Budget for CIS to increase the PM/PM rate from \$650 to \$675 for the approximately 1500 cases in the CIS system at any time. This increase was supported by the House Human Services Committee, but was not included in the House FY26 Budget.

Matt Levin, Executive Director
VT Early Childhood Advocacy Alliance
matt@vecaa.org
802-229-4281 (o) 802-279-9091 (m)
Pronouns: he, him, his