



Cornell Scott  
Hill Health  
Corporation

March 3, 2011

Appropriations Committee  
Legislative Office Building Rm 2700  
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Appropriations Committee Members,

I am writing to urge you to support the Nurturing Families Network (NFN) in its efforts to maintain the funding necessary to fulfill its goal of reducing child maltreatment. The proposed state budget reduction of 25% would eliminate all non hospital sites in New Haven and Hartford. New Haven and Hartford are cities with the highest rates of poverty and at risk families. Eliminating the NFN programs in these cities would likely cost the state more in mandatory spending for children who become involved with The Department for Children and Families due to a lack of preventive programs. NFN is an evidence based program and the research demonstrates long term benefits for the child, the family and the community. Early intervention reduces child maltreatment, improves birth outcomes, improves school readiness, promotes self-sufficiency and positive parenting.

The Children's Trust Fund (CTF) is the umbrella agency for NFN and CTF funds ensure that there is effective program evaluation and collaboration with over 75 community agencies. The Children's Trust Fund has already given up 20% of its budget and lost 50% of its staff over the past two years. The services provided by the Nurturing Families Network and the Children's Trust Fund are vital in an effort to reduce child maltreatment and promote child development and healthy families.

Thank you for your support.

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