

March 5, 2015

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to encourage you to vote against budget cuts to the Connecticut Mental Health Center (CMHC) that might be proposed this legislative cycle.

Having worked as a clinician in mental health settings in Missouri, Minnesota, Illinois, and East Africa prior to coming to New Haven, I feel I can speak to the dangers of underfunding such services. I'm sure you would agree that CMHC serves a critical mission for the citizens of New Haven and its surrounding communities, but the fruits of its research mission impact how care is delivered throughout Connecticut, the United States, and even around the world. Such endeavors could be critically jeopardized should budget cuts pass through the state legislature.

I urge you to stand up for the vision shared by John F. Kennedy when he addressed Congress on this topic in 1963: "We must promote - to the best of our ability and by all possible and appropriate means - the mental and physical health of all our citizens."

Thank you for your consideration to this matter.

Kindest regards,

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Congressional District 093 / Senate District S10