November 7, 2017

SBARE
NDSU Dept. 7520
PO Box 6050
Fargo, ND 58108-6050

RE: Letter of Support for NDSU Extension Service, Family and Consumer Sciences

To Whom It May Concern:

The Alliance for Children’s Justice (ACJ) would like to submit this letter in support of NDSU Extension Services, Family and Consumer Sciences and the work they do for children and families across North Dakota.

The ACJ is a multi-disciplinary task force of members representing law enforcement, mental health, parents, civil and criminal courts, prosecutors, defense attorneys, child protection staff, faith communities, education and medical professionals, prevention advocates, and citizens (membership attached). The purpose of the ACJ is to strengthen systemic responses to child abuse and neglect. The ACJ is sponsored by the North Dakota Department of Human Services, which has allocated federal Children’s Justice Act funds to establish and operate the task force.

North Dakota State University Extension Services’ Parent Resource Centers and Parent Education Network provide high quality, evidence-based education and resources to parents across the state of North Dakota. From lending libraries to parenting programs, Parent Resource Centers provide parents with a solid, research-informed core of knowledge and support. Research has established that lack of support and lack of information about child development are risk factors for child maltreatment; Parent Resource Center programming provides opportunities for improvement to all parents. And it works: Evaluation results demonstrate that Parent Resource Center programming, specifically the Nurturing Parenting Program, decrease the risk of child abuse and neglect substantially amongst class participants.

As a task force devoted to reducing child abuse and neglect, the ACJ recognizes the important part the Parent Resource Centers play in the child welfare safety net. With members representing all facets of the child service system in North Dakota, the ACJ is familiar with the services provided by each organization and industry, from prevention and investigation, to
forensic examinations to sentencing. The expertise and skills brought to the table by Parent Resource Center staff—especially when coupled with the trusted name and brand of North Dakota State University—are not, and cannot be, replicated and is not duplicated by another organization. The services provided by the Parent Resource Centers are an essential, integral part of the child and family serving system in our state; without these services, parents and children would suffer.

In light of the important work done by the Parent Resource Centers and the Parenting Education Network, and the collaboration between these organizations and others invested in promoting child and family well-being, the Alliance for Children's Justice requests your continued support of NDSU Extension Services, Family and Consumer Sciences, Parent Resource Centers, and the Parenting Education Network.

Sincerely,

Alliance for Children's Justice

[Signatures]

Alliance for Children's Justice Executive Committee

Marlys Baker — Chair
Administrator,
Child Protection Services
ND Department of Human Services

Leslie Brunette
Citizen/Survivor/Parent
West Fargo ND

Jon Byers
Assistant Attorney General
Office of the North Dakota Attorney General

Anna M. Frisell
Executive Director
Red River Children’s Advocacy Center

Deb Gebeke
Assistant Director, Family and Consumer Science,
NDSU Extension Service

Jennifer Graber
Assistant Administrator,
Child Protection Services
Children & Family Services Division
ND Department of Human Services

Sandra Tibke
Executive Director
Prevent Child Abuse North Dakota

Pete Tunseth
Director
Children and Family Services Training Center
University of North Dakota
2016 ALLIANCE FOR
CHILDREN'S JUSTICE TASK FORCE

BARB BREILAND, THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION,

STEVE GABRIELSON, CASS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

ARNIE RUMMEL, SPECIAL AGENT NORTH DAKOTA BUREAU OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION

KAREN KRINGLIE, DIRECTOR OF JUVENILE COURT SERVICES NORTH CENTRAL JUDICIAL DISTRICT

CORY PEDERSON, DIRECTOR OF JUVENILE COURT FOR THE SOUTH CENTRAL JUDICIAL DISTRICT

SWAIN BENSON, BOTTINEAU COUNTY STATES ATTORNEY

GARY DELORME, ASSISTANT UNITED STATES ATTORNEY, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CLARE HOCHHALTER, ASSISTANT UNITED STATES ATTORNEY, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JENNIFER KLEMETSRUD PUHL, ASSISTANT UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

TRAVIS FINCK, DIRECTOR, NORTH DAKOTA COMMISSION ON LEGAL COUNSEL FOR INDIGENT DEFENSE.

PAULA CONDOL, DIRECTOR OF THE DAKOTA CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER

ANNA FRISSELL, DIRECTOR OF THE RED RIVER CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER

CHRISTAL HALSETH, DIRECTOR OF THE NORTHERN PLAINS CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER

LEDORA WOHLER, MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH NURSING MANAGER, FARGO/CASS PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY

JANEL REGIMBAL, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES FOR LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES OF NORTH DAKOTA

CHIP AMMERMAN, DIRECTOR OF THE CASS COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES

SHARI DOE, DIRECTOR, CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES DIVISION, ND DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

JOHN ORLUCK, DIRECTOR OF QUALITY SERVICES, HOME ON THE RANGE

DEB JENDRO, PARENT COORDINATOR, ND FEDERATION OF FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH, FARGO

RENEE WETZSTEON, PARENT COORDINATOR, ND FEDERATION OF FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH, BISMARCK.

LEE ANN BARNHARDT, DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION FOR THE NORTH DAKOTA SUPREME COURT