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Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless

What: Hearing for the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP)

Where: State Office Building, Hearing Room 200

When: Wednesday, March 06, 2019 | Hearing- 12:45pm - 2:15pm

12:15pm - Opportunity to share MFIP stories with Lt. Gov. Flanagan prior to hearing located on the first floor of the Capitol in room 130

The Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) Gets a Hearing after Not Seeing an Increase in 33 Years

St. Paul, MN – The Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP), is the state's welfare-to-work program. MFIP provides employment support and temporary cash assistance to children and their parents who are striving toward full-time employment. **MFIP cash assistance has not increased since 1986.** Minnesota is one of just THREE states that has not seen an increase to its cash assistance in 33 years. The majority of parents who access MFIP do so immediately after losing a low-wage job that did not provide traditional unemployment insurance. Instead, they must turn to MFIP for time-limited help.

The average Minnesota family accessing MFIP receives just \$348 per month. The Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless and its partners are pushing for a \$200 per month increase to this program.

“Parents enrolled in MFIP struggle to find stable housing, afford gas to get to work, and provide other basic needs for their families. We know that families in 2019 cannot thrive on 1986 dollars. This is a commonsense proposal that would make an immediate difference for the lowest income families in Minnesota.” -- Senta Leff, Executive Director - Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless

More than 55,000 Minnesota children accessing MFIP are living in extreme poverty while their parents strive to satisfy rigid work and training requirements. An increase to MFIP will help children succeed, improve employment and family stability, and support the business economy.

Please follow the Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless as we advocate for a \$200/month increase to MFIP throughout the legislative session. www.mnhomelesscoalition.org

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