

E-mail Received August 11, 2021

Subject: covid relief fund testimony

Dear Sandy Most,

I am writing to you as a written testimony and a child care worker to hopefully be on the receiving end of the Frontline Worker Pay Covid Relief Fund.

During the beginning of the pandemic, when the world shut down and stayed home, child care workers throughout Minnesota stepped up and answered the Governor's call to stay open. We provided necessary care to children for parents who were critical in helping through the darkest days of the pandemic like nurses, doctors and first responders. We continued to work even though we could not social distance. We work in close contact with children daily for 10 or more hours each day. We are an underpaid and under respected field already outside of the pandemic, let alone during it, with an increased risk to our personal health and our families. And finally, the entire population we serve is unvaccinated due to the fact that they are all under the age of 12 and we don't know when vaccinations for young children will come. This continues to put us as educators at higher risk of developing covid, even if we are vaccinated. I truly feel, a child care educator that we deserve to be on the receiving end of the frontline worker pay pay working group for all of the reasons listed above.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Bridgit Neubauer
Lead Teacher at New Horizon Academy