

Ms. Susan Clark, President  
Capitol Edge Consulting, LLC  
11710 Plaza American Drive, Suite 2000  
Reston, VA 20190

June 13, 2015

Dear Ms. Clark,

I am writing to you to ask for your support with the Removing Disparities and Improving Children's Mental Health Care Bill that I plan to present to the Senate. As a practicing school nurse and mother of two children, I am aware of the importance of providing children with all available opportunities so that they can flourish mentally, physically, and socially throughout development. Especially in terms of mental health and behavior issues, children that are properly guided and supported can receive the necessary help.

Despite previous legislations that have worked to provide more funding for mental health programs, there is still a large portion of children in our country with undiagnosed issues or are not receiving the necessary help due to lack of knowledge, finances, or service availability. Your support will enable me to generate further change at a more intimate level by encouraging local governments to provide more educational opportunities to inform uninsured and low-income individuals of their available options; it will also encourage more dialogue to make recommendations for the current policies in place. Therefore, I hope you will help support me in overcoming the fragmentation of our current healthcare system and encourage integration of primary and behavioral care so that the most vulnerable children in our state will have access to the care they deserve.

Since today's children are our future, funding to provide the help they seek will not only be beneficial for them today, but will also impact the lives of millions years from now. I hope that you join and support me in this endeavor to help eliminate disparities in mental health care for our children. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jolly Itty  
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Co-sponsors:

Senator Lopes  
National Alliance on Mental Illness  
The Council of Children and Families