

## ACTION ALERT:

# Contact Leaders to Fix Funding Shortfall for the Maryland Therapeutic Child Care Grant Program

### PART 1: Contact Governor Wes Moore to Ask For His Help Through Supplemental Funding for this Critical Program:

#### Contact Information:

By Email Online – [Click here!](#)

By Phone – 410-974-3901 - OR - Through MD Relay – 1-800-735-2258

#### Example of what to say:

Dear Governor Moore,

I am writing/calling you to ask for your help to ensure there is appropriate funding for the Therapeutic Child Care Program (Reference R00A02.57 in the Budget Book).

**My family relies on this service in the following ways: *(Insert your personal story here)***

The funding appropriation for this program in your budget is 1.5 million. This is 2.2 million dollars less than the program has been funded for several years. There are 7 centers throughout Maryland that serve 250 children with specialized healthcare needs. These centers are located throughout the state and enable parents to continue to work and provide for their families, knowing their children are receiving the nursing and childcare services they need for the best start in life. The appropriation of 3.7 million would be a flat level of funding from last year and previous years.

The Therapeutic childcare providers use their grants to hire nurses and additional healthcare workers to supplement their existing childcare staff team. **With this cut in funding these programs will likely not survive.** If they do survive, they will most likely have to cut therapeutic childcare services to many children with a lower funded grant; costs for healthcare professionals and supplies are only going up, and these programs do not have other funding sources to fill in the gaps this shortfall would create.

**I ask for your help to restore \$2.2 million for the Therapeutic Child Care Grant Program (R00A02.57) to the FY26 budget to ensure the continued annual funding of \$3.7 million to continue to support some of our most vulnerable children in the state!**

Thank you!

**PART 2: Contact House Ways and Means Committee Chair and Subcommittee Chair. Ask them to conform HB185 to SB359 and Pass the Therapeutic Child Care Program Bill (SB359) with a funding intention of \$3.7 million for FY27-29**

**Contact Information:**

House W&M Chair Vanessa Atterbeary – 410-841-3471 –  
[vanessa.atterbeary@house.state.md.us](mailto:vanessa.atterbeary@house.state.md.us)

House W&M Early Childhood Subcommittee Chair: Julie Palakovich Carr – 410-841-3037 –  
[julie.palakovichcarr@house.state.md.us](mailto:julie.palakovichcarr@house.state.md.us)

**Example of what to say”**

Dear Chair Atterbeary and Subcommittee Chair Palakovich Carr,

I am writing you to ask that you pass Senate Bill 359 through your committee as it was amended in the Senate and conform HB 185 to match the language in the Senate bill.

***Insert a personal story here on why this bill is important to you:***

The Therapeutic Childcare Grant Program has been in place throughout the state, with 7 regional providers as grant recipients serving 250 children with specialized healthcare needs. The program allows parents to work, knowing that their children are receive the nursing and early intervention services they need to stay healthy and build skills.

The grant program has been level funded at 3.7 million per year for many years. We were surprised to see the FY26 draft budget cut this appropriation to 1.5 million. We are working to try to get the additional 2.2 million needed restored through our budget committees or a Supplemental Budget.

**I appreciate your support of our families, and your interest in ensuring services remain viable and intact for children with special healthcare needs. I ask that you pass SB 359 out of your committee, that includes the \$3.7 million needed annually for the program, for FY27-29.**

Thank you,