**Template for Email from CAC to MDT Partners**

Use this template to ask your MDT members to contact fiscal committee members about supporting the coalition request for $132M. For use March 10-20, 2023.

Subject of Email: CAC’s Need Your Immediate Help!

Dear MDT Partners:

(CAC NAME) is facing a XX% reduction in funding starting in July of this year. This will have devastating effects on our Center and will make it almost impossible to maintain the comprehensive level of services and support we currently provide for child victims of abuse and their families. Today, I am reaching out to ask for your help.

Currently, a statewide “Coalition of Coalitions” representing CACs and other crime victim services programs, is asking fiscal leaders in both houses of the state legislature to commit $132 million in ongoing funding to support and sustain services statewide. Programs that support crime victims across Washington – including CACs - have been chronically underfunded and have had to rely on unstable federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding to keep their doors open. Significant state investment is needed to meet the rapidly rising needs, retain staff, and ensure that quality services continue to be available in every county.

We are asking you to contact your Representatives and Senators on both fiscal committees and urge them to support the Coalition of Coalition’s funding request for $132 million. We also encourage you to ask your friends and colleagues to contact their Representatives and Senators as well. We cannot allow our most vulnerable victims to go without services!

To make this request easier, we have provided you with an email template below! Thank you in advance for your help with this important effort.

Sincerely,

Name, Title

CAC Name

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR EMAILING STATE LEGISLATORS**:

1. Please send individual emails to your legislators. Be sure to customize your ask.
2. Tell legislators why this is important for their district and their communities.
3. Please fill in the yellow highlighted sections with your information.

Dear INSERT LEGISLATOR’S NAME,

My name is INSERT YOUR NAME HERE. I am a INSERT PROFESSION HERE in Legislative District XX and a member of our local CAC multidisciplinary team. I am writing to you to urge you to please include the Coalition of Coalitions funding ask of $132 million dollars in the House/Senate budget. Without this investment, Children’s Advocacy Centers (CACs) will face devastating cuts of 38% across the board.

I support INSERT THE NAME OF YOUR CAC HERE because of the important services they provide for children and their families. Without these services I would not be able to do INSERT YOUR INFORMATION HERE. Which in turn make more my job more challenging. Additionally, these cuts will put children in jeopardy and make it more difficult for them to heal from the trauma they have experienced.

Please include the Coalition of Coalitions request for $132 million in both the House and Senate budgets to ensure these vital services for crime victims remain strong and intact.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please support this bipartisan issue. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me or INSERT THE NAME OF YOUR CAC HERE. Thank you.

Sincerely,

INSERT YOUR NAME AND TITLE HERE