



On behalf of the undersigned Minnesota organizations serving children, youth, and families

August 18th, 2026

The Honorable Keith Ellison  
Attorney General, State of Minnesota  
Office of the Minnesota Attorney General  
445 Minnesota Street, Suite 600  
Saint Paul, MN 55101

**Re: Dedicating Minnesota's social media settlement recoveries to the children and youth they were meant to protect**

Dear Attorney General Ellison,

Thank you for the leadership your office has shown in holding social media companies accountable for the harm their platforms have caused Minnesota's young people. As organizations that serve children, youth, and families across our state, we write in strong support of that work. We also make a simple request: that any funds Minnesota recovers through this litigation go to support young people, the population experiencing harm.

The evidence is clear, and it is personal to the families we serve. Rising rates of anxiety, depression, and isolation among young people are closely tied to platforms built to keep them hooked. These cases follow the path of the tobacco and opioid settlements, which were meant to repair harm to a specific group of people. That history also offers a warning. When those earlier settlement dollars flowed into general funds, much of the money ended up far from the people it was supposed to help. Minnesota has a chance to get this right from the very start.

As you build the case, we respectfully ask the Attorney General's Office to keep four principles in mind:

- 1. Dedicate the funds to youth well-being and mental health.** Use the recoveries to prevent and repair the harm social media has done. These dollars should add to what Minnesota already invests in kids, not replace it.
- 2. Invest across the full continuum of supports.** Fund the proven, in-real-life alternatives that draw kids off their screens, such as afterschool and summer programs, sports, arts, the outdoors, and mentoring. Fund the tools that help young people and families navigate social media safely. And fund the mental health services for the young people harmed most.

**3. Protect the dollars with clear guardrails.** Establish a dedicated, transparent, and accountable structure so the recoveries are shielded from diversion and can serve young people for years, not a single budget cycle.

**4. Put youth and family voices in the decisions.** Guide spending through an independent advisory body that includes young people, families, educators, youth workers, public health, and clinicians with real experience of these harms, with funding decisions made transparently.

We know this is the start of a conversation, and we would be glad to be a resource as it moves forward. We would welcome the chance to share data, on-the-ground perspective, our plans to gather stories and input from communities across Minnesota, and national models, including the Fund IRL framework, that can help these dollars do the most good for Minnesota's young people.

Thank you for your continued commitment to the children of our state. We look forward to working alongside you.

Respectfully,