

**SUSTAIN
OUR SERVICES**

TO THRIVE AND GROW



Newsletter

UPDATE FROM
THE PHOENIX RESIDENCE, INC.



Celebrating
The
Phoenix
Residence, Inc.
40 years

SPRING 2026



Making an Impact at the Capitol

Disability Services Day at the Capitol once again proved to be an inspiring and impactful day of advocacy in 2026. As ongoing challenges continue to affect disability services across Minnesota, it was more important than ever to stand together, raise our voices, and show lawmakers the real people and real stories behind the services we provide. Advocates from across the state gathered at the Capitol, creating a powerful show of unity and commitment to our community.



The rally featured passionate remarks from legislators and advocates who understand the critical importance of disability services. Several legislators took the stage, including Representatives Brion Curran and Peter Fischer, who represent several of our homes. The energy in the Capitol was undeniable as we cheered, chanted, and stood proudly together in support of the people we serve.

After the rally, we met with legislators to share personal stories and advocate for policies that protect and strengthen disability services. Thank you to everyone who joined us for this impactful day of advocacy! Missed it? No problem! [Visit our Facebook page](#) for photos or go to ARRM's YouTube to watch the [rally livestream](#).

Advocating at the National Level

But the advocacy didn't end there! This month, ANCOR, our national trade association, had a strong presence on Capitol Hill as CEO Barbara Merrill testified before the House Energy & Commerce Subcommittee on Health, highlighting the life-changing impact of Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS).



During her testimony, Barbara Merrill shared the story of Susan Hartley and her son, Cameron, who spent years on a Medicaid HCBS waiting list after being diagnosed with a rare seizure disorder. When Cameron finally received services, the support allowed Susan to continue working and focus on caring for her son. Cameron passed away in 2017 at age 35, but thanks to HCBS, he was able to live his entire life surrounded by love and family. **Thank you to Barbara for advocating for individuals, families, and disability services nationwide!**

UPDATE FROM THE PHOENIX RESIDENCE, INC.

Spring is here! As we welcome warmer weather and longer days, we continue to navigate ongoing federal and state changes that bring some uncertainty to the months ahead.

Despite these challenges, we remain deeply committed to advocating for the disability community while continuing to celebrate moments of joy. From Valentine's Day parties to lunch brunches, sports events, and holiday celebrations, none of these moments would be possible without our dedicated staff. Thank you for everything you do!

As we look ahead, we are focused on making the most of the coming months and are excited for the next quarter, including the much-anticipated Gertens Plant Sale and our annual Golf Tournament. For more information or to join in the fun, please visit our website at www.phoenixresidence.org.

As always, thank you for your ongoing support!

Renee

Renee Chen
Public Relations & Marketing Intern
The Phoenix Residence, Inc.

Sustain Our Services Update

Thank you for continuing to support us as we relaunch this campaign!

THIS QUARTER: \$26,391

TOTAL: \$255,548



Left: Michael from Drexel House had a blast at the Minnesota Wild's game with House Manager Casey.

Positive Progress for IHS-T Services

The House Human Services Omnibus Policy Bill released this month includes ARRM's Individualized Home Supports with Training (IHS-T) proposal (HF 3375), a service Phoenix provides to individuals in their own homes.

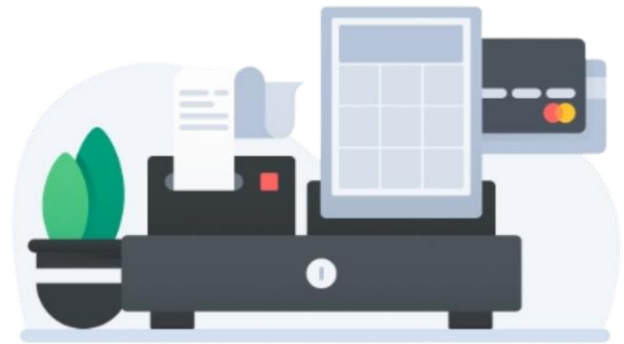
This proposal would:

- Change the current 6-hour daily cap to a monthly cap
- Remove the 3-hour consecutive cap
- Eliminate caps for individuals with complex needs

The bill was heard on March 26 by the House Human Services Finance and Policy Committee and was approved! A significant amount of written testimony submitted to the committee supported the inclusion of HF 3375, sponsored by Rep. Brion Curran, who also represents our Caswell, Centerville, and English homes. Supporters emphasized that these changes allow IHS-T services to better align with the real needs, goals, and daily routines of the people receiving supports.

Thank you Rep. Brion Curran and all supporters for your leadership and advocacy in advancing these important IHS-T improvements!

Donate Your Spare Change to Phoenix



Have you heard about our Round-Up program? If not, **now is the perfect time to get on board!** It is one of the simplest ways to support Phoenix and help sustain the services our community relies on.

With the Round Up program, your everyday purchases are rounded up to the nearest dollar, with the difference donated to our Sustain Our Services campaign. **You decide what works for your budget**—set a donation cap or allow unlimited round-ups. Small change adds up to a meaningful impact over time.

Visit our website today to get started:
<https://www.phoenixresidence.org/give/round-up-donations.html>