

United States Senate

September 9, 2021

Ms. Kristin Gordon, Project Officer
Division of Medicine and Dentistry
Health Resources and Services Administration
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Ms. Gordon:

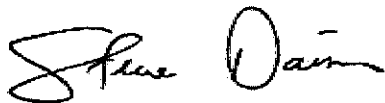
I am writing to you in support of the Montana Family Medicine Residency's (MFMR's) application for the Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education (THCGME) grant to expand the number of family medicine physicians in rural Montana.

Since its inception in 1996, the MFMR has been preparing physicians to practice family medicine in underserved rural areas both in Montana and throughout the United States. The MFMR is a community-based consortium model formed from the visionary leadership of the Billings Clinic, St. Vincent Healthcare, and Riverstone Health. As a result of these efforts, 154 family medicine physicians have graduated with 62% of these graduates remaining as primary care physicians serving rural communities in Montana.

If the application is successful, funds will support six additional family medicine resident slots. This will be accomplished by filling two resident slots per year over the next three years, thus ensuring that Montanans in underserved rural areas have greater access to high quality medical care.

I trust you will give this application fair and thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,



Steve Daines
United States Senator