

# HB 96 WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

Please complete the Witness Information Form before testifying:

Date: 05/12/2025

Name: Samya Camp, Student At Meadowdale Career Technology Center, reading for Laylah Ichchou

Are you representing: Yourself **Organization**

Organization (If Applicable): Dayton Public Schools

Position/Title: Student

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Do you wish to be added to the committee notice email distribution list? **Yes**

Business before the committee

Legislation (Bill/Resolution Number): House Bill 96

Specific Issue: Youth Mental Health Funding

Are you testifying as a: **Interested Party**

Will you have a written statement, visual aids, or other material to distribute? **Yes**

(If yes, please send an electronic version of the documents, if possible, to the Chair's office prior to committee. You may also submit hard copies to the Chair's staff prior to committee.)

How much time will your testimony require? **1-2 minutes**

Please provide a brief statement on your position: **The following testimony advocates for more funding for youth mental health resources.**

## **LI2: How It Feels to Have No One to Talk To**

I respectfully ask our representatives to address the problem of youth mental health. I feel as if it doesn't get the attention it deserves. Mental health challenges are the leading cause of disability and poor life outcomes in young people. Unfortunately, in recent years, we've seen significant increases in certain mental health disorders in youth, including depression, anxiety, and suicidal ideation. Many factors shape the mental health of young people, from individual to societal level forces ([HHS](#)). This impacts people locally in my community because our young children are taking their lives due to bullying and having problems at home. A fact that shows how serious this problem is 50% of mental health problems are established by age 14 and 75% by age 24([mental health foundation](#)).

The fact that I stated shows the importance by explaining how many youth deal with mental health and most likely have no one to go to or just don't feel comfortable telling anybody they know. This affects people's everyday lives by parents having to lose their children and causing them to have mental health problems as well. This issue matters to me because as a person who has dealt with mental health I know how hard it can be to always have to hold in how you feel and have no one to talk to about it.

I feel as if we could get free therapy programs or something of that sort. Also just having a place they feel comfortable going to when they don't feel safe. This problem is connected to other people's struggles around the world because mental health awareness is a world wide thing and it is dealt with all around the globe.

This problem is occurring because most people deal with trauma in their childhood or are still dealing with trauma. Trauma such as physical abuse, sexual abuse, psychological or emotional abuse, verbal abuse. So many ways that can mess up someone's mind and affect their upbringing. The federal government works with the states to address these issues. To make this matter better it will require a team and people who actually want to make people feel better about themselves. An action that has to be taken to address this problem is awareness because I feel as if no one cares until it's someone close to them. This people can't be solved alone. I feel as if it would take a group of people to actually make a difference. We need our representatives to shed more light on how mental health affects so many people. If we don't do nothing about this issue it will continue to affect families around the world. If we succeed in slowing down the suicide percentage not saying we could stop it completely but hopefully we can slow it down. Would you be willing to add more funding for youth mental health resources in the state budget?