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Nancy Jost receives Friend of the CGMC Award

ST. PAUL— Nancy Jost, director of early childhood for West Central Initiative, received the “Friend of the CGMC” Award from the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities (CGMC) July 25 during the Coalition’s three-day summer conference in Bemidji. The Friend of the CGMC Award recognizes individuals and organizations that have helped advance the interests of Greater Minnesota.

With her breadth of knowledge and expertise, Jost is one of the top leaders in the state on the issue of child care. During the 2019 legislative session, she played a pivotal role in helping to advance proposals aimed at addressing the child care shortage that has become a serious impediment to business and community growth in Greater Minnesota. She traveled to St. Paul on several occasions to meet with legislators and testify in favor of a CGMC-supported proposal to provide funding to the six Minnesota Initiative Foundations to expand business training and assistance programs to more child care providers in Greater Minnesota. Her efforts helped secure \$750,000 in funding for the MIFs, as well as an additional \$750,000 for other child care grant programs.

“The staff at the CGMC has Nancy’s number on speed dial,” said Ron Johnson, a member of the Bemidji City Council and president of the CGMC. “As our organization becomes more involved in exploring solutions to the child care crisis, Nancy has been an invaluable source of knowledge and information. She works hard to craft smart policies that will go a long way toward addressing the need for more child care options in our communities.”

CGMC is a nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy organization representing 97 cities outside of the Twin Cities metropolitan area. The Coalition educates legislators about issues important to Greater Minnesota.

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