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To

Prof. Christoph Härtel, Department of Pediatrics, University Hospital Würzburg

Prof. Tobias Banaschewski, Central Institute for Mental Health Mannheim

Prof. Dr. Marcel Romanos, Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry,
University Hospital Würzburg

Regarding: *ChildHealth*, Letter of Support

Dear Christoph, dear Prof. Banaschewski, dear Prof. Romanos,

we are very excited about the opportunity for extending our existing collaboration with regard to the German Neonatal Network (GNN) and Priming Immunity at the Beginning of Life (PRIMAL) Consortium in the context of the proposed *ChildHealth* research platform.

ChildHealth addresses very critical aspects of the development of children and adolescents, and is unique in specifically studying the interplay between somatic and mental health in children. The Bundesverband "Das frühgeborene Kind" e.V. is the German patient-association for preterm and sick born children that addresses many aspects of long-term health of these children and their affected families. In the first years of life mainly somatic health issues of preterm babies are in the focus of health professionals. Needless to say, preterm infants additionally suffer from problems of emotional dysregulation, difficulties in coping with stress, social interaction and peer relationships later in life. Therefore prevention programs or early intervention strategies are urgently needed. We are grateful that *ChildHealth* addresses these topics within the scientific agenda and hereby express our full support.

Please do not hesitate to contact us for further questions.

Sincerely yours

Barbara Mitschdörfer
Chairwoman
Bundesverband „Das frühgeborene Kind“ e.V.