

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1503

March 31, 2023

Chairwoman Kay Granger
House Appropriations Committee
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro
House Appropriations Committee
1036 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

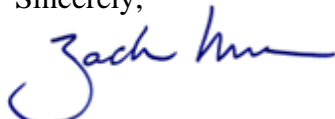
Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting that the Appropriations Committee provide a funding level of \$1,600,000 for Building Futures: Iowa's Innovative Answer to Conquering Youth Homeless. The entity to receive funding for this project is the YSS: Iowa Homeless Youth Centers (IHYC), located at 612 Locust Street, Des Moines, IA 50309. The funding investment will support the renovation of a youth homeless center in Des Moines, Iowa, to help expand its programming to increase its capacity to serve homeless youth. It will encourage homeless youth to enroll and use free academic, health, wellness, and educational community programming. This request will serve approximately 500 additional individuals over a 5-year period. Now more than ever, at-risk youth is in need of immediate, effective, and comprehensive services to address their needs. Research shows that teens at risk have increased levels of stress and mental health issues, which potentially result in poor academic performance, unwanted pregnancy, substance abuse, criminal activity, and suicide. This is a good use of taxpayer money as IHYC is the only Des Moines-area organization providing free access to a safe place for at-risk, low-income, and low-performing homeless or at-risk youth. This funding will be used for the children who need it most and create positive social investment in the well-being and futures of American citizens.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program: 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



Zach Nunn
Member of Congress