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

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Chairwoman  
House Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger,

I am requesting funding for the Acute Care Center Project in Fiscal Year 2023. This request is for the Health Facilities Construction and Equipment Account under the Health Resources and Services Administration. The entity to receive funding for the project is Aurora Community Mental Health Center, located at 791 Chambers Road, Aurora, CO 80011.

The Aurora Comprehensive Community Mental Health Center (AuMHC) is seeking \$2,000,000 for building core and shell construction and interior finishings for the construction of a new Acute Care Center. Currently, AuMHC operates three separate locations for acute mental health and substance use disorder services: a walk-in crisis and 16-bed Crisis Stabilization Unit, a Connect to Care walk-in access point; and Withdrawal Management (Detox) services. These disparate locations require first responders and the public to determine which location to access, creating unnecessary confusion, as well as the need to move clients across sites when needed. By co-locating acute behavioral health and immediate access services at a single location, AuMHC aims to increase access to care and improve the continuum of care. Additionally, the Acute Care Center is the first phase of a health campus at the location, which includes future plans to build a physical and oral health clinic and affordable housing units.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds. In recent years, Congress has demonstrated a commitment to removing barriers to mental health and substance use disorder acute care. Making these services accessible and providing holistic care to patients is even more important as we emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic. The proposed Acute Care Center will enable clients to access mental health, addictions, crisis, primary care and oral health services at a single location, eliminating barriers to access for both clients and community partners.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project. I appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jason Crow".

Jason Crow  
Member of Congress