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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 Children's Hospital Colorado Bilingual Incentive and Pathway Programs in Fiscal Year 2023. This request is for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Health Surveillance and Program Support account under the Department of Health and Human Services. The entity to receive funding for the project is the Children's Hospital Colorado located at 13123 E. 16th Avenue, Aurora, CO 80045.

Children's Hospital Colorado is seeking \$668,313 to expand and develop two critical programs in conjunction with University of Colorado School of Medicine that together will enhance access to mental health care and improve linguistic responsiveness in mental health services for children and youth in Aurora, Colorado and the broader Denver metro area. The first component of the proposal is the Pathway Program, which will provide unlicensed psychotherapists with the professional supervision and training required for them to obtain a license. The second component of the proposal is a Bilingual Incentive Program that will provide a stipend for mental health providers and other staff to attain a clinical level of fluency in a second language.

This is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds. Colorado lacks a sufficiently large and culturally responsive mental health workforce to adequately serve the growing need. As a result, access to timely care is increasingly difficult. It is not unusual for long periods of time to pass between the onset of a child's psychiatric disorder and the delivery of an effective treatment. This funding will help Colorado support and grow its mental health workforce.

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