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April 27, 2022

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Chair Appropriations Committee U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger Ranking Member Appropriations Committee U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I write to respectfully request \$2,000,000 in fiscal year 2023 funding for the Behavioral Health Care Provider Incentive Program.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Fairfax County Government, located at 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Virginia 22035.

This program will provide eligible students and behavioral health care providers with financial assistance for education. Recipients must agree to employment in a provider position for a minimum of three years at the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board (CSB). This program will allow for a variety of behavioral health and developmental disability students and practitioners to receive financial assistance for education from Fairfax County in exchange for providing service to the CSB. This program will help to address the unprecedented workforce issues being faced by the CSB and would be targeted towards hard-to-fill positions that require either certificates or Associate Degrees, including positions such as registered nurses (RNs) and licensed practical nurses (LPNs). There are more than 200 vacant positions at the CSB and not enough qualified candidates to meet the current workforce needs.

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

Sincerely

Gerald E. Connolly Member of Congress

11th District, Virginia