

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

March 19, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chair
Committee on Appropriations,
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations,
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair and Ranking Member:

I am requesting \$24,000,000 in funding for the FIU-NCH Congenital Heart Defect Research Institute in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is Florida International University, located at 11200 SW 8 Street Miami, FL 33199 with the project location taking place at the same location.

This proposal will contribute to the development and expansion of the FIU Health Innovation district by investing in integrating and expanding collaborative and interdisciplinary research and partnerships; providing critical start-up equipment and laboratory requirements; heightening and expanding FIU Health's reputation and advancing the recruitment of leading faculty. This practical training capacity will improve interagency communication, continuity of operations, and resource decision-making. The project will also strengthen workforce development by preparing current and future professionals with applied skills that are difficult to replicate in a traditional classroom environment. Through simulation-based learning and interdisciplinary exercises, participants will gain experience in operating within an Incident Command environment, thereby increasing confidence, competence, and readiness to respond to complex emergencies. These benefits extend beyond FIU students to healthcare personnel and response partners throughout South Florida and beyond. The facility will enhance regional collaboration by serving as a shared training and exercise platform for partners such as Jackson Health System, Baptist Health South Florida, Nicklaus Children's Hospital, and other domestic and international institutions. This will promote stronger coordination across hospitals, public agencies, and emergency response organizations, leading to more integrated planning and response efforts. Long term, the project will contribute to a more resilient healthcare system, improved emergency preparedness capabilities, and stronger protection of community health during disasters and crises.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 272 of title 15, United States Code. I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



Jared Moskowitz
Member of Congress