

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 18, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chair
House Appropriations Committee
H-307 Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for Safe & Stable Families: Standing with Survivors Through Mobile Advocacy in Fulton County in Fiscal Year 2027.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Association located at 352 University Ave. SW N-118, Atlanta, GA 30310. The physical location of this project is 283 Joseph E. Lowery Blvd., Atlanta, GA 30314.

The funding would be used to deliver mobile legal advocacy and safety planning for survivors of domestic violence in Fulton County. Safe & Stable Families: Standing with Survivors Through Mobile Advocacy in Fulton County brings free, trauma-informed legal services directly to survivors of domestic violence, removing barriers such as transportation, childcare, work constraints, and fear of encountering their abuser. Services are delivered at shelters, community centers, and partner organizations, ensuring timely access to life-saving legal assistance.

AVLF addresses the needs of domestic violence survivors through mobile advocacy, assisting survivors with Protective Orders, custody, child support, divorce, and legitimation, while also providing safety planning, crisis intervention, and referrals to housing, counseling, and other resources. By integrating legal advocacy with community outreach, the program helps survivors navigate the legal system, stabilize housing, protect children, and rebuild their lives free from abuse.

Success will be measured by survivors served, Protective Orders filed and granted, safety plans implemented, and referrals made, alongside client-reported improvements in safety and stability. Program data will guide ongoing evaluation, strengthen partnerships, and ensure services reach those most affected.

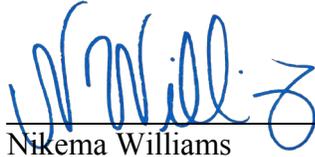
The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because family violence rates are high. Georgia reported 42,184 family violence incidents—a 12% increase from the prior year—with 70% of victims being women and nearly a third involving a child. Statewide, 37.4% of women and 30.4% of men have experienced intimate partner violence. Local leaders describe domestic violence in Fulton County as an epidemic, highlighting a critical gap in survivor-centered legal support.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by Section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

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

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nikema Williams", is written over a horizontal line.

Nikema Williams
Member of Congress