

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-3215**

March 28, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger  
Chairwoman  
Committee on Appropriations  
H-307, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
1036 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for Mary Mitchell Family and Youth Center Backyard and Security Upgrades in fiscal year 2024.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Mary Mitchell Family and Youth Center, located at 2007 Heidi Hynes Way, Bronx, NY 10460.

The funding would be used for the renovations of the Mary Mitchell Family and Youth Center's backyard space. Upgrades to the backyard, including athletic equipment (basketball hoops and an electric scoreboard), water fountains, a playground set, new flooring, repairs to the retaining wall, and enhanced security features like cameras, will provide families in the community a safe space to socialize and learn through scheduled programming. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the East Tremont and Crotona neighborhoods of the Bronx have become high-risk areas for crime, tremendously affecting the families within the community. Investing in the Mary Mitchell Family and Youth Center's site will provide much needed alternative options and opportunities for vulnerable populations.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program: 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(1), 5305(a)(2), 5305(a)(4), and/or 5305(a)(5).

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

Sincerely,



Ritchie Torres  
Member of Congress