

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

March 18, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
H-305, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

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

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the New York City Health + Hospitals-Lincoln/Youth Ambassador and Junior Violence Interrupter Program in Fiscal Year 2027.

The entity to receive funding for this project is NYC Health & Hospitals/Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center, located at 234 E 149<sup>th</sup> Street, Bronx, NY 10451.

The funding would be used to support the New York City Health + Hospitals-Lincoln Youth Ambassador and Junior Violence Interrupter (YA/JVI) Program, a community-based initiative in the Bronx that reduces violence and recidivism by training justice-involved youth as credible messengers and providing comprehensive reentry and legal case management support. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it reduces recidivism, lowers long-term costs to courts, corrections, and emergency services, while delivering lasting public safety benefits to one of the Bronx's most underserved communities.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes authorized in the Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (JAG) program, 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,



Ritchie Torres  
Member of Congress

