

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

March 27, 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 VIP FQHC Facility Renovation: Behavioral Health, Oral Health, and Care Coordination Expansion in Fiscal Year 2027.

The entity to receive funding for this project is VIP Community Services, located at 770 East 176th Street, Bronx, NY 10460.

The funding would be used for the renovation and expansion of clinical service capacity at VIP Community Services' FQHC. The project addresses three critical gaps in healthcare delivery for low- and moderate-income residents: access to behavioral health services, access to oral health care, and coordinated navigation of social and medical needs for Medicaid and dual-eligible populations. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it expands the capacity of an existing safety-net health facility to serve some of the most vulnerable and underserved patients in the nation. This investment directly reduces avoidable emergency department utilization, improves chronic disease outcomes, and strengthens the continuity of care for thousands of Bronx residents who depend on this FQHC for their primary health services.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by and consistent with the goals of one or more of the following eligible uses of the Community Development Fund (CDF): 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(1), 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2), 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(4), and 42 U.S.C. 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

