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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

March 31, 2023

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The Honorable Kay Granger  
Chairwoman  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

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

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Lebanon Childcare Facility in Fiscal Year 2024.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Lebanon located at 51 North Main Street, Lebanon, NH 03766.

The funding will be used to build a new childcare facility to provide daycare and afterschool programming. This project is a prudent use of taxpayers' funds because it will help alleviate the shortage of childcare centers in New Hampshire's Upper Valley. 43% of families in the area struggle to find affordable childcare. This project will support construction of a new childcare facility that will provide high-quality, educational daycare for 200 infants, toddlers, and preschoolers. The center will also provide after-school programming for children ages five to twelve. At least 51% of enrollment will be reserved for children of low- to moderate- income families. Childcare for 200 children would provide significant relief to the childcare shortage in the Upper Valley region. According to Vital Communities, a nonprofit that works with 69 Upper Valley communities, childcare for 200 children will resolve nearly 10% of the identified childcare gap in the region. As demonstrated by the community letters submitted with this Community Project Funding request, this project has robust support from the private and nonprofit sector. In addition to providing childcare for 200 children, the facility will also help expand the early childhood education workforce by offering on-the-job training for future early childhood educators through a partnership with New Hampshire Technical Institute, a local community college. By helping train the next generation of early childhood educators, this facility will lay the groundwork for tackling NH's early childhood education shortage.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2).

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

Sincerely,

Ann McLane Kuster  
Member of Congress