

ANN McLANE KUSTER
SECOND DISTRICT, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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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 MainStreet Warner Lodge Kitchen in Fiscal Year 2024.


The entity to receive funding for this project is MainStreet Warner, Inc. located at 16 East Main Street, Warner, NH 03278.

This funding will be used to construct a commercial kitchen that can meet the local need. Like many rural communities, Warner was hard-hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. Since the pandemic, MainStreet Warner has gone from serving 70 households to nearly 300. The number of households served rises each month. This project is a valuable use of taxpayers' funds because it will create the first shared-use community kitchen for processing, storage, and distribution. The need for this community kitchen was identified as a high priority in a 2015 feasibility study authorized by the USDA Rural Business Enterprise and Capital Regional Development Council. The project will additionally stimulate the local economy by purchasing food from local farms and producers for the food insecure community. The upgraded kitchen will also allow farmers to create value-added food and products for the community, further strengthening the economy in Warner and surrounding towns.

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