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LABOR, HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES, EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-6502

May 3, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole Chair House Committee on Appropriations 2207 Rayburn House Office Building U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Ranking Member House Committee on Appropriations 2413 Rayburn House Office Building U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Health Hub Expansion project in fiscal year 2025. The entity to receive funding for this project is the St. Mary's County Health Department. St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD) proposes an expansion to the Health Hub to provide 24/7 behavioral health crisis stabilization services to the Lexington Park Community. The St. Mary's County Health Hub is an established, sustainable, place-based community health nexus where health partners address disparities in access to health care and in healthcare outcomes, reduce costs and improve outcomes. Primary care services are offered within the facility through an income-based sliding fee scale to ensure access for free for the residents with low or no income. The Hub primarily serves the vulnerable populations of Lexington Park (20653), Great Mills (20634), and Park Hall (20670) in St. Mary's County (SMC), Maryland.

This project has a Federal nexus because it is for the purposes authorized in Section 306 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, 7 U.S. Code section 1926(a).

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely yours,

STENY H. HOYER