April 28, 2022

Dear Appropriations Committee Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting $2,000,000 in funding for the Mollie Maison Permanent Supportive Housing Conversion program in fiscal year 2023. The entity to receive funding for this project is The People Concern, located at 2116 Arlington Ave., Suite 100, Los Angeles, CA 90018. The project location is 4701 W. Adams Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90016.

Mollie Maison is a 23-unit former motel located in the West Adams neighborhood of Los Angeles. Upon signing of an operator agreement with the City of Los Angeles, the title to the property was transferred to The People Concern and was converted into interim housing units. Federal funding would support the agency’s efforts to convert Mollie Maison from interim housing to 22 units of permanent supportive housing for some of the most vulnerable residents of CA37.

The renovation of Mollie Maison is aimed at aiding with the chronic shortage of affordable and permanent supportive housing units in Los Angeles, which has been a problem for decades. According to Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), the County needs to add 509,000 additional permanent housing units to meet current demand, yet only 529 new permanent supportive housing units were brought online in 2020 for all of L.A. County. This is an excellent use of taxpayer funds because solving chronic homelessness will require ongoing, individualized support so that people can find long-term stability, improve their wellbeing, and remain housed. Conversion of Mollie Maison from the current interim housing units to permanent supportive housing will allow The People Concern to build further on its history of offering just those supports, including connecting clients to essential healthcare, counseling and access to mental health resources. While no single project will solve the chronic shortage of permanent supportive housing, all projects such as Mollie Maison contribute to the solution.

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

Sincerely,

Karen Bass
Member of Congress