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TIM RYAN
CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
13TH DISTRICT, OHIO

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH SUBCOMMITTEE
CHAIRMAN

DEFENSE SUBCOMMITTEE
ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT, AND
RELATED AGENCIES SUBCOMMITTEE

April 28, 2021

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro
Chair
House Appropriations Committee
H-307, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting \$1,000,000 for The Centering Pregnancy & Addiction Program at Mercy Health in Fiscal Year 2022.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Bon Secours Mercy Health Inc, located at 1701 Mercy Health Pl., Cincinnati, OH 45237-6147. The physical address of the project location is Mercy Health Youngstown 2031 Belmont Ave., Youngstown, OH 44405.

Mercy Health Youngstown (MHY) is the largest healthcare provider and employer and the only obstetric provider in the tri-county area of Columbiana, Mahoning, and Trumbull Counties. This is an area which has suffered decades of job and population losses, with higher unemployment rates than Ohio and more than a third of residents living below the poverty line (compared with 13% in Ohio).

MHY is requesting \$1 million to renovate a former Veteran's Affairs (VA) clinic in Youngstown, left vacant by their relocation to a larger facility at the end of 2020. This newly renovated space will allow for them to expand their services by establishing a Centering Pregnancy (Centering) program and Addiction Medicine Fellowship in Youngstown, Ohio. This project serves to achieve the dual goal of repurposing the facility and bringing needed healthcare services to an at-risk community. Additionally, this supports efforts that will dramatically improve the health among Medicaid recipients in the community, therefore reducing the overall cost to taxpayers in the long run.

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

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tim Ryan
Member of Congress