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CHELLIE PINGREE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES 15T DISTRICT, MAINE

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEES:

Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies

> Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES

House Agriculture Committee
Subcommittees:

BIOTECHNOLOGY, HORTICULTURE, AND RESEARCH

Conservation and Forestry

March 31, 2023

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for Joe's Place Teen Center and Shelter in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is Preble Street, located at:

55 Portland Street Portland, ME 04101

The funding would be used to construct Joe's Place, a center and shelter that will provide 24/7, barrier-free access for runaway and homeless youth. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because Joe's Place will provide emergency shelter and connect youth to supportive services that reduce chronic homelessness, including long-term supportive housing, housing vouchers, transitional housing, and rapid rehousing. Additionally, providing a safe and secure environment for teens reduces the risk of involvement in the juvenile justice system, reducing costs associated with law enforcement and the criminal justice system.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(4).

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

Sincerely,

Chellie Pingree

Member of Congress

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