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Congress of the United States
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March 19, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-305, the Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for **Philadelphia Community Youth Court-Restorative Justice Project** in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is Philadelphia Community Youth Court located at 441 E. High Street, Unit #7, Philadelphia, Pa 19144. The funding would be used for the opening of a new headquarters and the expansion of their program into multiple locations across the city, as the demand for Youth Court services has increased significantly.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because a comprehensive economic analysis concluded that the juvenile justice system “urgently requires improvements” to better allocate taxpayer money toward effective youth programs rather than expensive court processing. Youth courts like PCYC divert cases before they reach the formal system, saving the city money at every step. Research from the School District of Philadelphia highlights that youth courts: Promote accountability and reintegration by assigning healing-focused dispositions like apologies and community service. Help prevent suspensions and disciplinary removals, which are linked to future justice-system involve Reducing recidivism saves taxpayers millions by lowering long-term policing, court, and detention costs.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes described in section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152). I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



Dwight Evans
Member of Congress