April 28, 2021

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chair
House Appropriations Committee
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education
2368-B Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education
2358-B Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Cole:

As you begin crafting the fiscal year 2022 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, I respectfully request that you give consideration to the following community project funding priorities:

1. Provide a funding level of $352,675 for EQA Idlewild Park Preserve Environmental Science Learning and Sustainability Advocacy Project in fiscal year 2022. The intended recipient is Eastern Queens Alliance, Inc., located at 149-20 Springfield Land, Springfield Gardens, New York, 11413. The project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it would be used to develop an after-school program for children at the Environmental Science Center.

2. Provide a funding level of $1,500,000 for the Emergency Department Modernization Project to Address Healthcare Disparities – MRI Renovations project in fiscal year 2022. The intended recipient is The Jamaica Hospital Medical Center located at 8900 Van Wyck Expwy., Richmond Hill, NY 11418. The project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it would cover the construction costs associated with updating and doubling the ED’s MRI capabilities, which is the first step in a larger effort to modernize the hospital’s emergency facilities.

3. Provide a funding level of $1,500,000 for the Expansion and Modernization of the Community Care Wellness Center in fiscal year 2022. The intended recipient is the
Joseph P. Addabbo Family Health Center, Inc., located at 6200 Beach Channel Drive, Arverne, NY 11692. The project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it would help complete the construction and renovation of both an existing facility and a new facility to provide a holistic care center for the community.

4. Provide a funding level of $3,000,000 for the Queens Peace Academy project in fiscal year 2022. The intended recipient is Life Camp, Inc. located at 111-12 Sutphin Blvd., Jamaica, NY 11435. The project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it would be used for a youth engagement program that is focused on reducing bullying, violence, and recruitment to gangs through mentorship and social emotional services.

5. Provide a funding level of $2,402,203 for the Elmont Health Center Renovation and Repair project in fiscal year 2022. The intended recipient is Long Island FQHC, Inc. located at 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 300, Westbury, NY 11590. The project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it would be used for construction and repair costs to increase access to comprehensive primary and preventative health care, and to improve the health of the underserved and vulnerable communities.

6. Provide a funding level of $5,923,345 for the Women and Newborns Health Equity Renovation Project in fiscal year 2022. The intended recipient is St. John’s Episcopal Hospital, located at 327 Beach 19th Street, Far Rockaway, New York 11691. The project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it would be used to renovate the Maternity/NICU and Labor & Delivery Units within the hospital.

7. Provide a funding level of $6,381,063 for the Behavioral Health Equity Renovation Project in fiscal year 2022. The intended recipient is St. John's Episcopal Hospital, located at 327 Beach 19th Street, Far Rockaway, New York 11691. The project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it would be used to renovate the Behavioral Health Unit within the hospital.

8. Provide a funding level of $1,250,000 for the Skills and Simulation Center Project in fiscal year 2022. The intended recipient is St. John’s University (NY), located at 8000 Utopia Parkway, Jamaica, New York 11439. The project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it would be used to expand the learning environment for a new nursing program.

9. Provide a funding level of $1,979,000 for The Holistic Study of Health Disparities Initiative in fiscal year 2022. The intended recipient is York College, CUNY, located at 94-20 Guy R. Brewer Boulevard, Jamaica, New York 11451. The project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it would be used to perform a comprehensive health care study and also to train students.

10. Provide a funding level of $527,437 for the Workforce Step Up program in fiscal year 2022. The intended recipient is York College, CUNY, located at 94-20 Guy R. Brewer Boulevard, Jamaica, New York 11451. The project would be a valuable use of
taxpayer funds because it would be used for higher education in healthcare and business.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Gregory W. Meeks
Member of Congress