



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

May 23, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
House Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for the Ithaca Youth Bureau Facility Modernization and Expansion. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Ithaca located at 108 E. Green Street, Ithaca, NY 14850.

This funding would be used to renovate and expand a critical municipal facility that provides essential youth and family services to over 7,500 individuals annually. This facility is intended to serve low- and moderate-income families across multiple Qualified Census Tracts in a city where the poverty rate is 28.4%- more than double the national average. The current building is outdated and deteriorating, threatening the safe and effective delivery of its programs. The project would include an accessible public entrance, upgraded building safety features, and a new childcare wing. It will also create specialized spaces for mentoring, academic support, recreation, arts, and programming for youth and adults with disabilities.

This investment is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it would expand economic opportunity and promote skill development for young people throughout Ithaca. The Youth Bureau provides academic support, job readiness training, mentoring, and recreation—all of which improve educational outcomes, long-term earning potential, and community engagement. Early investments in youth are cost-effective, reducing future spending on healthcare, social services, and juvenile detention. A modern, accessible Youth Bureau would ensure continued delivery of these vital services in a safe and accessible environment, benefiting the entire Ithaca community for generations to come.

This project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized in 42U.S.C.5305(a)(1), 5305(a)(2), 5305(a)(4), and 5305(a)(5).

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JR' with a large loop on the left and a horizontal line extending to the right.

Josh Riley
Member of Congress