



*Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515*

*Anna G. Eshoo
Sixteenth District
California*

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Tom Cole,
Chairman
Subcommittee on Transportation,
Housing and Urban Development, and
Related Agencies
House Committee on Appropriations
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mike Quigley,
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Transportation,
Housing and Urban Development, and
Related Agencies
House Committee on Appropriations
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member Quigley,

As you begin your critical work on the Fiscal Year 2024 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, I request that you include \$1,881,023 for Ayudando Latinos a Soñar's Half Moon Bay Farmworker Resource Center. This request for Community Project Funding is associated with the Department of Housing and Urban Development Economic Development Initiatives account.

Ayudando Latinos a Soñar (ALAS) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that provides culturally centered mental health services, wrap-around case management, immigration, and education to the Latino community in the coastal communities San Mateo County. Since the recent shooting of seven farmworkers in Half Moon Bay in my Congressional District, ALAS has helped support and advocate for the needs of farmworkers who are too often invisible in the community.

The requested funding will allow ALAS to construct a Farmworker Resource Center in Half Moon Bay which will serve as the first and primary source for ALAS' current social services, education, networking and gathering location for the Latino farmworker community in Half Moon Bay. The Center will be located in an affordable housing development that will house approximately 40 families, with priority for low-income farmworkers.

The Center will provide services including education opportunities, space for small-scale commercial cooking to support entrepreneurial families, and gathering space for various community engagement and advocacy activities. ALAS will also improve its ability to provide health referrals, community engagement opportunities, and various

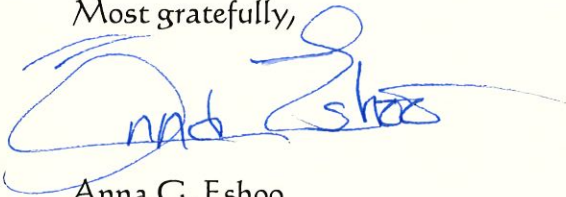
existing workshops including English classes and computer science courses. The community kitchen will support the weekly La Mesa Dinners and provide cooking business opportunities as well as an additional food security option in the event of disasters like the flooding which displaced families earlier this year. It will also provide another Wi-Fi hub to support internet connectivity to participants who are seeking services. The ALAS farmworker team will also be headquartered here to provide outreach services to nonresident farmworkers.

As an indication of community support, I've enclosed letters of support from the following local elected officials and community leaders:

- Senator Josh Becker, California State Senate
- Assemblymember Marc Berman, California State Assembly
- Supervisor Ray Mueller, County of San Mateo
- Mayor Deborah Penrose, City of Half Moon Bay
- Matthew Chidester, City Manager, City of Half Moon Bay
- Sophia Layne, President, Cabrillo Unified School District Governing Board

If enacted, this request would help ALAS provide social services and programming to meet the unique needs of the farmworker community, and it's why I wholeheartedly support this Community Project Funding request and ask that you do so as well.

Most gratefully,



Anna C. Eshoo

Enclosures