

MADELEINE DEAN
4TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

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April 29, 2022

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chairwoman
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, HHS, and Education
2358-B Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, HHS, and Education
2358-B Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

**Re: Community Project Funding Request for Montgomery County Racial
Justice Improvement Project (RJIP)**

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting \$442,287 in funding for Montgomery County Racial Justice Improvement Project (RJIP) in fiscal year 2023 through the Commerce, Justice, Science Subcommittee and the Byrne Justice Assistance Grants.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Montgomery County District Attorney's Office, located at 2 E. Airy Street, Norristown, PA 19401.

The funding would be used for expanding The Racial Justice Improvement Project's diversion services for minority youth through two primary streams; (1) school districts with elevated rates of disproportionate minority contact (DMC), and (2) Magisterial District Courts. Students and their families from two target districts with the highest rates of DMC; Abington and Cheltenham, will receive services through the project which will serve as a pilot for additional districts in the county to provide an alternative to police referral for school-based offenses.

Each family is assigned a Youth Aid Panel (YAP) Case Manager. This component is essential to reducing the barriers that prevent high-risk youth and their families from accessing and completing YAP including; low literacy levels to understand paperwork, distrust of the police/court system, disengaged caregivers, chaotic home environments, lack of transportation, and constitutional factors/behavioral health needs of the youth. The assigned Youth Case Manager engages the student and their caregivers to complete mandated programs, activities, and/or community service requirements in order to successfully complete the program.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

Madeline Dean

Madeline Dean
Member of Congress