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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Juan Vargas

51st District, California

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SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE MIDDLE EAST, NORTH AFRICA,
AND GLOBAL COUNTERTERRORISM

April 27, 2022

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for the "Targeted Foster Family Recruitment" project in fiscal year 2023, in the amount of \$500,000. The entity to receive the funding is San Diego County, located at 1600 Pacific Highway, San Diego, CA 92101.

Resource parents are valued partners in Child Welfare Services. They provide a safe and nurturing home while parents actively work in reunifying with their children. Through no fault of their own, there is a current shortage of Resource homes for a segment of the foster youth population. Many LGBTQ youth, larger sibling groups, medically fragile youth, and children of color linger in group-homes unnecessarily. This earmark would support the active recruitment of Resource homes for LGBTQ youth, larger sibling groups, medically fragile youth, and children of color. The funding would provide strategies for engagement, ongoing support, and training for Resource parents. The engagement would involve using traditional and social media platforms.

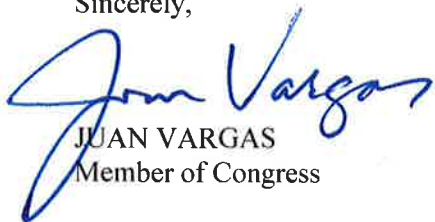
Being a Resource parent is not only beneficial to the youth and biological families, but to the community at large. Resource parents make a positive impact as they provide safe and nurturing homes for youth who frequently interact with the community at large on many levels. It provides an opportunity to change lives for generations. While keeping the children connected to people that mean so much to them.

The project is a good use of taxpayer resources because it will allow San Diego County to perform targeted recruitment of foster and adoptive families for LGBTQ youth, larger sibling groups, medically fragile youth, and children of color. These populations have challenges finding placement for a variety of reasons. Through targeted recruitment and public education, the County believes qualified, loving families can be identified and trained for the particular challenges of these children. This project will include multi-platform outreach and training throughout San Diego County.

This project has received written support from San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria and San Diego County Board of Supervisors Chair Nathan Fletcher.

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

Sincerely,



JUAN VARGAS
Member of Congress