

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3214

March 19, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
House Committee on Appropriations
H-305, the Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Community Substances Use Prevention Expansion project. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Archdiocese of New York Drug Abuse Prevention Program (ADAPP), located at 2789 Schurz Ave, Bronx, NY 10465. The funding would be used to expand the capacity and reach of their evidence-based community coalition model, working directly with local schools, youth organizations, businesses, and local law enforcement to prevent and reduce substance use among youth in The Bronx.

This project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it is cost-effective, with research showing that for each dollar invested in prevention, between \$2 and \$20 in treatment and other health costs can be saved. Additionally, ADAPP works directly with local law enforcement to expand their community outreach capacity on anti-substance abuse education and training, and in turn prevents youth crime and associated cost burdens on our justice system. 9 out of 10 adults (90%) with substance use disorders initiated their use before age 18. The earlier substance use begins, the more likely it will progress to substance use disorder.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

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

Sincerely,



Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez
Member of Congress