

**SYLVIA R. GARCIA**  
29TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES

1620 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-1688

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-4329

April 28, 2021

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro  
Chairwoman  
Committee on Appropriations,  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations,  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Cole,

As you begin your work on the fiscal year 2022 Appropriations Bill, I respectfully ask that you consider the following funding priority.

Provide a funding level of \$1,000,000.00 for the Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration Health Facilities Construction and Equipment as a community project funding request. The intended recipient is Asian American Health Coalition of Greater Houston Inc., DBA HOPE Clinic located at 7001 Corporate Drive, Suite 120, Houston, TX 77036. The project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it delivers crucial health resources to students who otherwise would not have access to physical and mental health services. The project title is "HOPE Clinic Aldine School-Based Clinic"

The Aldine community surrounding Aldine Middle School suffers from inequitable access to healthcare resources. Beyond that, there are next to no resources to mental health services in the community. Aldine Middle School is a Title I school that serves nearly 3,000 students of which 87.4% are economically disadvantaged, 92.3% Hispanic, and 18.5% English Language Learners.

To address identified healthcare needs within the community, AAHC and Aldine Independent School District have entered into a partnership that will allow the opening of the HOPE Clinic – Aldine Middle School Based Clinic to serve the over 16,000 children in Aldine ISD. This request will allow for a permanent space to expand healthcare

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coverage to adults in addition to the students. This school-based clinic will offer 2 days a week coverage in medical care and 2 days a week for behavioral health care.

We have all seen firsthand the impacts of inequitable access to healthcare during this pandemic. The implementation of a school-based clinic, accessible to over 16,000 students, will bridge the gap and deliver vital physical and mental health services to students and community members to create a more just society and increase overall quality of life in the area.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sylvia R. Garcia". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line under the "a" at the end.

Sylvia R. Garcia

Member of Congress