

HENRY CUELLAR, PH.D.
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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March 27, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-305, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

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

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Gateway Community Health Center Autism Access Expansion Project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the FQHC Gateway Community Health Center, Inc. located at 1515 Pappas St. Laredo, TX 78041.

The Community Project Funding would be used to expand autism and developmental disorder diagnostic capacity across Gateway Community Health Center's tri-county service area, including Webb, Zapata, and Jim Hogg Counties. The project includes the acquisition of standardized diagnostic assessment tools, telehealth carts and equipment, electronic health record (EHR) system enhancements, and targeted clinical space renovations necessary to support service delivery. The project will serve a predominantly low-income and medically underserved population, where access to specialized diagnostic services is limited and delays in care are common. The project will benefit the district by strengthening healthcare infrastructure, reducing barriers to care through telehealth expansion, and improving early intervention and long-term health outcomes for children and families across South Texas.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it expands critical healthcare infrastructure and diagnostic capacity to improve early detection and access to care for children with autism in underserved and rural communities.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized under the Public Health Service Act.

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

Sincerely,



Henry Cuellar

U.S. Congressman
28th District of Texas