

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chair  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

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

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for Stride CHC Infrastructure Improvements in Wheat Ridge, Colorado. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Metro Denver Provider Network, located at 7495 W. 29th Ave. Wheat Ridge, CO 80033.

This project supports the beginning of necessary upgrades to the HVAC equipment at the flagship Wheat Ridge clinic of STRIDE Community Health Clinic (STRIDE). This is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because the aging system has begun to experience failures during extreme temperatures. For young children, older adults, and patients with chronic health issues, extreme temperatures are especially dangerous, and inadequate climate control can represent a barrier to healthcare. Additionally, many pharmaceuticals require storage at a narrow range of temperatures, and HVAC system breakdowns can put these medications at risk. In direct alignment with HRSA's focus on health equity, 87% of STRIDE's patients, including 75% of its pediatric patients, live in families with incomes below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level. Furthermore, approximately 35% of STRIDE's total patient population is uninsured, and 50% rely on Medicaid. The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized under the Public Health Service Act.

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

Sincerely,



Brittany Pettersen  
Member of Congress