

STEPHEN F. LYNCH
8TH DISTRICT, MASSACHUSETTS

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT
AND REFORM

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

ASSISTANT DEMOCRATIC WHIP

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
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March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chair
House Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for a project to create a field house for the Boys and Girls Club of Dorchester in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Dorchester Boys and Girls Club, located at 1135 Dorchester Avenue, Dorchester, MA 02125. The funding would be used for building the field house. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the need for year-round out-of-school-time youth development programs in Dorchester is critical. Our neighborhood is the most densely populated in Boston (124,000 residents), is richly diverse (42 races and ethnicities represented), and immigrants and first-generation US citizens constitute over one-third of its population, 37%. Dorchester's already marginalized families were barely getting by before March of 2020, and are now trying to return to baseline, a daunting prospect with wages continuing to stagnate and inflation continuing to plague those contending with poverty.

The Field House will support every aspect of a child's growth and development, based on a planning process which began years ago and which draws heavily from input and guidance from an internal Youth Advisory Board and more than a dozen public forums. We found through these dialogues that the needs of our community youth are reflective of the goals of BGCD as an organization: to help our kids succeed academically, develop healthy lifestyles, and build good character. The youth we serve and those we will recruit when the Field House opens are among Boston's most vulnerable, facing challenges such as poverty, disability, cultural and language barriers, immigration status, and education level-all of which lead to ongoing disadvantages and reduced opportunities. Yet, despite these hardships, we know that each child holds great promise and is full of potential.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2).

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

Sincerely,



Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress