

STEPHEN F. LYNCH
8TH DISTRICT, MASSACHUSETTS

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES
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OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

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May 10, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
House Appropriations Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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

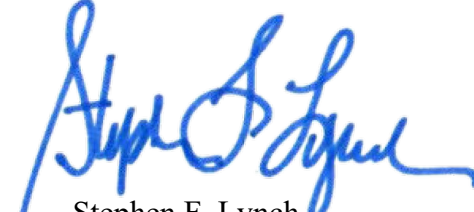
Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting Community Project Funding for the Suffolk County Sheriff's Project Engage: Public Safety through Public Health in fiscal year 2025. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Suffolk County Sheriff's Department, located at 20 Bradston Street, Boston, MA 02118. The funding would be used to transform a portion of its existing 700-bed secure facility in downtown Boston into a state-of-the-art model in the delivery of behavioral health care and substance use disorder treatment for criminal justice-involved individuals through a multi-year agreement with Boston Medical Center. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because as the costs of incarceration in Massachusetts rise (approximately \$100,000 per person annually) and recidivism rates remain high, the project aims to provide behavioral health care and substance use disorder treatment for criminal justice-involved individuals to reduce recidivism and ultimately the costs for taxpayers. Furthermore, by implementing a care centered approach to public safety and partnering to extend services to individuals upon their return to their community, the project will deliver a safer greater Boston area by addressing root causes of criminal and recidivistic triggers and reducing the strain currently placed on the mental health care system in Massachusetts.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes described in 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,



Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress