

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

## CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

## April 29, 2022

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for the Ty's Place – A Safe Place for Teens: Youth Personal Development and Leadership Program in fiscal year 2023.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Gentlemen By Choice Community Development Corporation at 205 W. Centennial Parkway, Ste 130, North Las Vegas, Nevada 89081.

Gentlemen By Choice Community Development Corporation's (GBC) Youth Personal Development and Leadership Program is requesting \$250,000 to support the expansion of its Youth Personnel Development and Leadership Program. The mentoring program deliberately targets at-risk youth from socially economically challenged communities as a crime prevention measure and to help mitigate negative interactions with law enforcement.

The benefits of mentoring youth are widely reported. According to research, students who meet regularly with mentors are 52% less likely than their peers to skip a school day and 37% less likely to miss a class. Youth who meet regularly with mentors are 46% less likely than their peers to start using illegal drugs and 27% less likely to start drinking. These facts highlight two significant contributors that could lead to violent acts and negative law enforcement interactions amongst youth.

GBC's Youth Personal Development and Leadership program is a social-emotional prevention and intervention mentorship program that provides various programs to support youth life skills development. The primary program focuses on teaching leadership development, image, financial literacy, and etiquette training to youth ages 13-21. Each phase of training emphasizes civility, patience, and good citizenship. The competencies build upon one another, teaching them how to in each segment.

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

Sincerely,

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Congressman Steven Horsford 4<sup>th</sup> District, Nevada

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