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UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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ON INTELLIGENCE

CO-CHAIR EMERITUS
CONGRESSIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN CAUCUS

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
H-305, the Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

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

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Oyate Ota Center project in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is the American Indian Family Center, located at 579 Wells Street, Saint Paul, MN 55130. The funding would be used to acquire a site for and construct the Oyate Ota Center, a community center serving the American Indian community residing in Ramsey County with culturally specific support.

This project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the American Indian community in Ramsey County has been calling for a central community space since 1991. This community center will partner with Ramsey County and the Saint Paul Public Schools, as well as American Indian-serving organizations, to reduce service access barriers for the American Indian community in the East Metro. 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Betty McCollum".

Betty McCollum
Member of Congress