

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 1, 2024

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting \$2,000,000 in funding for the Fort Bend County Women's Center (FBCWC) shelter renovation project. The funding would be used for staffing a new, 125 bed non-communal Shelter in Richmond, TX. FBWC will have the capacity to serve more than twice as many survivors and children as with our current Shelter, which will be replaced by the new Shelter. The funding would specifically to hire additional staff members/support specialists for a new 125 bed non-communal Shelter in Richmond, TX, to enhance its capacity to serve more than twice as many survivors and children due to a rapidly increasing demand.

This new, larger, non-communal Shelter is necessary to allow Fort Bend County to serve the ever-increasing number of domestic violence victims and their children. Having a safe place for the abused parent to escape with their children is extremely important in helping prevent family violence in future generations. So, the beneficial effects of more Shelter capacity are long-range and significant. The new Shelter will be non-communal, which promotes more stress-free progress toward independence.

The planned Shelter will be located on the Rio Bend campus in north Richmond. That campus also houses Fort Bend Women's Center's supportive services offices – Counseling, Case Management, Legal Services, Life and Wellness Skills, and Youth Services. With close access to all these services, survivors and their children will be able to make great strides toward their new, safe, independent lives.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152). I also certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



Troy E. Nehls
Member of Congress