

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-1501**

April 26, 2021

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Chair  
Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Labor,  
Health and Human Services, Education,  
& Related Agencies  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Labor,  
Health and Human Services, Education,  
& Related Agencies  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Cole:

As you craft the fiscal year 2022 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, & Related Agencies Appropriations bill, I respectfully request that you include \$200,000 in community project funding for the Marshalltown Medical Clinic, operated by Primary Health Care, Inc., and located at 101 Iowa Avenue, Marshalltown, IA 50158.

Marshalltown Medical Clinic already has a demonstrated track record as a federally qualified health center (FQHC) that knows how to use taxpayer resources prudently and with a community focus. This funding request would support a construction and expansion effort at the clinic so that it can continue its important work by serving even more of Iowa's most vulnerable population. Iowans in Marshall County rely on this FQHC for access to health care services in a medically underserved, rural area. Marshalltown Medical Clinic provides its patients with essential services, including primary care, behavioral and mental health care, Medicated Assisted Treatment, substance abuse evaluation, maternal and obstetrical care, pediatric care, and more.

The requested funding amount would enable the clinic to expand its physical space from 19 to 32 exam rooms, drastically improving the FQHC's ability to reach more patients to provide care. The expansion would also include adding an on-site pharmacy, increasing patient-follow through on medication needs through better prescription access. Currently, Marshalltown Medical Clinic has maximized its existing space, expanded evening and weekend hours, and employed telehealth options; yet there remains significant unmet patient demand and growing wait times. Appointments exceed a seven day wait.

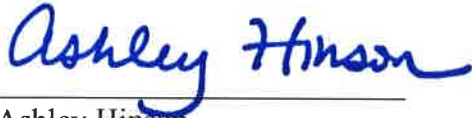
This is unsustainable in this small, rural community desperately in need of support. Marshalltown Medical Clinic's patients face significant barriers to care: lack of transportation, the inability to take time off to visit the doctor with long waiting room times, language translation needs, nutrition challenges brought on by food insecurity, and more. The Marshall County patient population is unquestionably in need of care and federal resources: 89 percent of the patient population is living 200 percent below the federal poverty level, 22 percent is

uninsured, 40 percent is on Medicaid. At the same time, Marshalltown's patient base, and therefore community need, is growing.

As a proven, trusted health care provider in a federally designated rural area, Marshalltown Medical Clinic is able to reach into patients' lives and make serious health inroads. This successful FQHC can reach the patients most in need in Iowa's First District, providing in a direct way for the general welfare the Constitution outlines as a key responsibility of the federal government.

Ultimately, this request is exactly the reason the Committee has implemented the Community Project Fund – to ensure that local entities in need of congressionally-directed resources are able to accomplish the most good for the taxpayer, with limited taxpayer resources. Thank you for considering my request, which I believe will have far-reaching impacts on the local community.

Sincerely,



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Ashley Hinson  
Member of Congress  
Committee on Appropriations