ILHAN OMAR Member of Congress 5th District, Minnesota

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COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR SUBCOMMITTEES ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE INVESTMENT WORKFORCE PROTECTIONS

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SUBCOMMITTEES ON

AFRICA, GLOBAL HEALTH, AND GLOBAL HUMAN RIGHTS

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNATIONAL Organizations, and Global Corporate Social Impact

April 29, 2022

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for Avenues for Youth Housing and Headquarters in fiscal year 2023.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Avenues for Youth located at 1708 Oak Park Avenue North, Minneapolis, MN 55411.

The requested \$6,000,000 would go towards providing enhanced shelter space and transitional housing unit for youth experiencing homelessness. The funding would be used for Avenues for Youth new space in North Minneapolis that will increase the already provided shelter and transitional housing units for youth experiencing homelessness. Every night in Minnesota, almost 5,000 youth experience homelessness and there is only a fraction of shelters beds for them. The site will also include much-needed affordable apartments for youth and will serve as the new administrative headquarters. The mission is to be able to offer youth a place to sleep instead of living on the streets in locations unfit for habitation, trade sex for shelter, or stay in abusive situations. This new home will offer more housing options for youth regardless of age and gender, providing dignified, youth-centered spaces and contribute to improved outcomes. The goal of this project is to grow their current services, own a permanent home, and provide flexibility to expand and prepare for the future.

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

Sincerely,

Member of Congress