ILHAN OMAR Member of Congress 5th District, Minnesota

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## **Congress of the United States** House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515–2305

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR SUBCOMMITTEES ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE

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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 Birth Center Improvement in fiscal year 2023.

The entity to receive funding for this project is WomenVenture, located at 165 Western Ave N., Suite 8, Office #100, Saint Paul, Minnesota, 55102.

The requested \$600,000 would fund improvements to Roots Community Birth Center in North Minneapolis, which provides prenatal care and birthing services. This funding would go towards improvements to their current space and renovations in a newly acquired building across the street. This would allow Roots to serve more families, make out-of-hospital births more accessible, and expand their Perinatal Safe Spot. North Minneapolis is a predominantly Black community facing substantial health inequities across the board, including maternal and infant health outcomes. By increasing the number of community members that Roots can serve, this project is a critical way to help narrow Minnesota's racial disparities which are some of the most severe in the country.

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

Sincerely,

Member of Congress