Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

March 28, 2019

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Chairwoman Subcommittee on Labor, Health, and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies House Committee on Appropriations 2358-B Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Tom Cole Ranking Member Subcommittee on Labor, Health, and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies House Committee on Appropriations 2358-B Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Cole:

As you begin work on the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2020, we ask that you continue to support funding for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program (21st CCLC). Specifically, we ask that you provide \$1.32 billion in funding as a step toward meeting the need for access to quality afterschool and summer programs for working families. These funds will ensure that the 1.7 million children who currently benefit from 21st CCLC will continue to have access to high quality, effective programs. This level of funding will also begin closing the opportunity gap for the 19 million more children and families that research shows would participate in programs if they were available, by ensuring programs for 100,000 additional young people.

21st CCLC is the only dedicated funding stream for afterschool and summer programs. Over a span of twenty years, researchers have built an evidence base for quality and effectiveness by studying programs across the nation. An independent report, published this March (2019) and supported by the Wallace Foundation, reviewed research from 2000 to 2017 and found programs improved a wide range of outcomes including student attendance, achievement in mathematics and English; grade promotion and graduation rates, and student health and fitness. This research spans the country, all age groups and wide variety of indicators of well-rounded student success.

In addition to providing safe, engaging spaces for youth to receive academic supports, explore their passions, connect with caring adults, build skills in leadership and communication, benefit from physical activity and a meal, and build their paths to college and career, afterschool and summer learning programs support working parents as well. Parents with children who utilize afterschool programs have the peace of mind that their children are safe and engaged in the hours after school, resulting in benefits to parents and their employers through greater workplace productivity and fewer missed days of work.

21st Century Community Learning Centers has longstanding bipartisan support in Congress and afterschool and summer programs elicit widespread public support. An October 2018 poll conducted by the bipartisan team of Lake Research Partners and the Tarrance Group found that vast majorities of the public – across gender, race, age, regional and party lines – consider afterschool programs to be important to their communities. They also found strong support for

public funding of afterschool and summer learning programs, with two in three adults saying they want their federal, state and local leaders to provide funding for afterschool and summer programs.

We thank you for your continued support of afterschool and summer learning programs, and for your work on behalf of children and working families. We ask that the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee ensure that the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program remains a vital resource to approximately 10,000 communities by providing a funding level of \$1.32 billion in FY 2020.

Sincerely,

Member of Congress

Don Young Member of Congress

im Langevin

Member of Congress

Anthony G. Brown *Member of Congress*

Adam B. Schiff

Member of Congress

Seth Moulton

Member of Congress

Jerry McNerney

Member of Congress

Ron Kind

Member of Congress

Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan
Member of Congress

Dina Titus

Member of Congress

Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress

Ruben Gallego Member of Congress

Danny of Davis

Danny K. Davis

Member of Congress

André Carson Member of Congress

Adriano Espaillat

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Brendan F. Boyle

Member of Congress

Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress

Kathleen M. Rice

Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

Pramila Jayapal Member of Congress Daniel W. Lipinski

Member of Congress

Suzan Del Bene
Member of Congress

Debbie Wasserman Schultz

Member of Congress

Ballay & threide

Bradley S. Schneider Member of Congress

Peter Welch
Member of Congress

Chris Pappas

Member of Congress

Donald S. Beyer Jr.

Member of Congress

Aca

Steve Cohen

Member of Congress

Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress

Frederica & Wilson M.C.

Frederica S. Wilson Member of Congress

Lutler Uyre Girdy Axne

Member of Congress

Mike Doyle

Member of Congress

Susan A. Davis

Member of Congress

Dave Loebsack

Member of Congress

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Stephen Member	F. Lynch of Congre	ess	_
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John Katko Member of Congress

Henry C. "Hank" Johnson

Member of Congress

Peter A. DeFazio

Member of Congress

Joyce Beatty

Member of Congress

Tony Cárdenas Member of Congress

Kim Schrier, M.D.

Member of Congress

Eleanor Holmes Norton
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Tulsi Gabbard

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Rick Larsen

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John P. Sarbanes

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Alan Lowenthal Member of Congress

Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

Jimmy Gomer Member of Congress

Ted W. Lieu

Member of Congress