

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger  
Chair  
House Appropriations Committee  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Committee  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for “SafeStart” in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is Doorways for Women and Families, located at 4600 Fairfax Drive, Suite 600, Arlington, VA 22203. The funding would be used to help acquire a set of one-, two-, and three-bedroom apartments that will provide shelter and longer-term housing for survivors of violence.

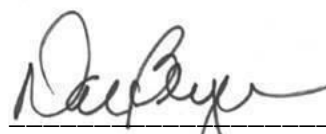
The project will increase Arlington County’s supply of emergency housing units for low-income individuals and families that experience sudden homelessness due to domestic or sexual violence. The request is for \$1,500,000 in CDBG HUD EDI funding to procure scattered site, non-congregate units of housing in Arlington County, Virginia. Funds awarded through this request will be matched 1:1 with private funding from the Arlington community.

The demand in Arlington for emergency shelter and re-housing services for survivors of violence has been steadily rising. Between 2018 and 2022, use of Doorways safehousing programs increased by 84%. Since 2020, the compounding impacts of COVID and the increasing economic pressures of inflation and rapidly rising rents have precipitated a 53% increase in the number of individuals and families fleeing imminent danger. Because Doorways is Arlington’s only provider of services for survivors of domestic and sexual violence, they shelter and serve all individuals and families fleeing violence. The need in our community exceeds capacity to provide emergency shelter, causing Doorways to rely on rooms in partner hotels (at least \$135 per room/night). By increasing the supply of housing units for survivors of domestic and sexual violence, the project will increase the capacity for Doorways to provide emergency shelter and follow-on services to support individuals and families in their journey to stable, long-term housing where all can heal, adults can achieve economic stability, and children can grow and thrive.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(1).

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

Sincerely,



Donald S. Beyer Jr.