MADELEINE DEAN 4TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

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March 31, 2023

The Honorable Tom Cole Chairman Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, HUD, and Related Agencies 2207 Rayburn HOB Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Mike Quigley Ranking Member Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, HUD, and Related Agencies 2039 Rayburn HOB Washington, DC 20515

Re: Community Project Funding Request for Share Food Program

Dear Chair Cole and Ranking Member Quigley:

I am requesting \$1,535,000 in funding for the Share Food Program - Montgomery County Warehouse Construction project in fiscal year 2024 through the Housing - CDBG, Economic Development Initiative (EDI) account.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Share Food Program, located at 2901 W. Hunting Park Avenue, Philadelphia, PA, 19129.

If funded, the Share Food Program will use the \$1,535,000 to complete vital repairs to its Montgomery County Warehouse. With Community Project Funding, the warehouse roof will be repaired, solar panels will be installed, and a generator will be put in place to utilize the solar power. These necessary improvements will greatly enhance efficiency and resiliency of Share's operations in the area.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because in Montgomery County, PA, Share was selected to serve as the County's lead agency for State and Federal food distribution based on the demonstrated quality of their program delivery. In 2022, Share served over 215,000 County residents, and distributed a monthly average of 100,000 lbs. of food into the community. Census data indicates that 58,000 residents of Montgomery County experience chronic food insecurity, and their data reflects an alarming growth in the number of individuals who rely on the Share Food Program for nourishing, healthy food.

Through the development of Share Food Program's Montgomery County Warehouse, the organization will be able to serve an estimated 80,000 individuals on a weekly basis. These people will be served at over 50 locations throughout the region. The services that Share will provide through the Montgomery County Warehouse will include supplying shelf stable food for

food pantries in the region, delivering seniors with boxes of food each month, and providing school children their subsidized meals.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 USC 5305(a)(1).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

Madeleine Dean

Member of Congress

Madelune Dean