## MADELEINE DEAN 4TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

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## Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-3804

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May 2, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole Chairman Committee on Appropriations 2207 Rayburn HOB Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Ranking Member Committee on Appropriations 2413 Rayburn HOB Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the JEVS Opportunity Youth Outreach Program (JOYOP) for Diversion and Reentry in fiscal year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is JEVS Human Services, located at 1845 Walnut Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, in Philadelphia, PA 19103.

The funding would be used to support the work of JEVS Human Services, which receives referrals of youth from local juvenile probation and District Attorney offices in Montgomery County. JEVS assesses youth and refers them to local programs for further support. JOYOP offers mentorship, referrals, and course-correcting for the trajectory of young people's futures.

JEVS has worked with youth in Montgomery County for the past 5 years through The Choice is Yours (TCY), a program for people who have committed their first nonviolent drug-related crime and are at risk of going to prison for a minimum amount of time. In this program, mentors support participants in continuing their education, planning for their future careers, and performing mandatory community service projects. These connections help youth reengage with education, build workplace skills, and seek employment – ultimately saving taxpayer dollars by diverting youth from further involvement with the justice system.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 USC § 10152).

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

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