

MADELEINE DEAN  
4TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEES  
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE  
LABOR — HHS — EDUCATION  
COMMERCE, JUSTICE, & SCIENCE

FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
OVERSIGHT AND INTELLIGENCE  
RANKING MEMBER, FOREIGN ARMS  
SALES TASK FORCE

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

WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
150 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
202-225-4731

DISTRICT OFFICES:  
115 EAST GLENSIDE AVENUE, SUITE 1  
GLENSIDE, PA 19038  
215-884-4300

1200 EAST HIGH STREET, SUITE 105  
POTTSTOWN, PA 19464  
610-382-1250

March 19, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
H-305, the Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
1036 Longworth HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for Montgomery County Emergency Behavioral Crisis Center in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, located at 425 Swede Street, Norristown, PA 19401.

The funding would be used support the operation of Montgomery County's Emergency Behavioral Health Center. Montgomery County's Emergency Behavioral Health Crisis Center represents a \$21 million capital investment and is expected to serve approximately 15,000 residents annually. Phase II will expand services to include short-term crisis stabilization beds for children and adolescents experiencing acute psychiatric emergencies.

Behavioral health emergencies continue to drive significant strain on emergency departments, law enforcement, child welfare systems, and families. Individuals in psychiatric crisis frequently wait extended periods in hospital emergency rooms or are placed in settings ill-equipped to meet their needs. Adolescents experiencing acute mental health crises face system gaps. The absence of short-term stabilization beds often results in prolonged emergency department boarding, unnecessary inpatient admissions, or out-of-county placements that disrupt family and community support.

Use of Funds Community Project Funding will support development and operation of Emergency Behavioral Health Center, children and adolescent short-term crisis stabilization beds, clinical staffing and psychiatric coverage for 24/7 operations, care coordination and discharge planning to ensure rapid linkage to outpatient and community-based services, integration with mobile crisis, law enforcement diversion, and hospital systems, and data infrastructure to measure outcomes and cost avoidance.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because As Pennsylvania's third-largest county, Montgomery County continues to experience steady growth in both population and

diversity. As of July 2024, the U.S. Census estimated the County's population at 879,190, with projections indicating an increase to 942,944 by 2050. Demand for health and human services has surged. From 2018 to 2023, the number of individuals receiving County services for intellectual disabilities, mental health, substance use, and homelessness assistance increased by 58%.

This project's outcomes would be diversion of thousands of residents annually from emergency departments and inpatient psychiatric hospitalization, reduced law enforcement involvement in behavioral health crises, diversion from carceral settings, shortened emergency department boarding times for adolescents, increased stabilization within the least restrictive, community-based setting, and measurable Medicaid and public safety cost avoidance.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes described in section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Madeleine Dean". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Madeleine Dean  
Member of Congress