

ERIC SWALWELL
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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April 25, 2022

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
H-307, The Capitol
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth House Office Building
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting \$477,000 in funding for the Post-Covid Student and Teacher Recovery and Resilience Building Program for fiscal year 2023. The entity to receive funding for this project is the East Bay Agency for Children (EBAC), 2828 Ford Street, Oakland, CA 94601.

The funding would be used for the city's project to provide technical assistance, training, and facilitation to help Hayward Unified School District (HUSD) staff to build a sustainable student mental health counseling and family resource center. The project will help school staff and faculty develop the skills necessary to identify and address the social emotional needs of dysregulated students suffering from grief and trauma including in-classroom observation and coaching and address their own trauma and anxiety to promote wellness.

Hayward is facing a trifecta of risks to producing a healthy, educated next generation: the pandemic widened the learning gap for children from low-income communities of color; these same children disproportionately suffered economically and emotionally; and employment shifts resulting from the pandemic left schools under-staffed and remaining teachers stretched and stressed. Without building teachers' own resilience, they cannot be expected to remain in the profession and persevere through the challenges in the years to come to close learning gaps while simultaneously helping to address the current childhood mental health crisis. This project 1) builds an embedded system of mental health-based supports to scaffold teachers' resilience so they are supported and empowered to face the difficult work ahead and 2) expands families' access to resources to address childhood trauma and grief so children begin to heal and thus fully access and benefit from their education.

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

Sincerely,

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

Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress