

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

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PROPERTY, AND THE INTERNET

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 \$250,000 in funding for the MCC Rental Assistance Program for fiscal year 2023. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Muslim Community Center East Bay, 5724 W. Las Positas Blvd, Suite 300, Pleasanton, CA 94588.

The funding would be used for the city's project to support MCC's Rental Assistance Program that help families avoid eviction by providing rental assistance to refugees, single mothers, victims of domestic violence, and working families in the East Bay. The housing crisis has affected single mothers, working families and refugees at an alarming rate. The program ensures families stay housed. The community members donate funds that they use to pay rent for families directly to the landlord.

Keeping families housed ensures their overall health and well-being. It ensures children stay in school and that parents and other adults can stay employed. Having a roof over your head is a basic human necessity. Their rental assistance program serves refugees, single mothers, victims of domestic violence, and working families.

Last year, MCC East Bay received over 500 applications for rental assistance. Most were offered one month of help due to a temporary illness or other emergency. The average dollar amount of assistance is \$2000 per person. About 25% of the applicants needed short term assistance of 2-3 months. Most of the families in this category are the newly arrived refugees, but this "short term" assistance also applies to single mothers just having a child with employers that don't offer much maternity leave, those with long term illnesses, and victims of domestic violence needing extra help to establish independence.

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