

April 5, 2022

Office of Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House 1236 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker of the House Pelosi,

I am writing on behalf of Hamilton Families in support of Larkin Street Youth Services' proposal for FY23 Community Project Funding's Health and Human Services – Administration for Children and Families, Social Services Research & Demonstration account.

Hamilton Families has worked to end homelessness for children, youth, and families in San Francisco since 1985, and we have partnered with Larkin Street on various projects, advisory groups, and strategic initiatives. We consider Larkin Street as a leader in the sector filling a critical need among unaccompanied minors and transition aged youth. They are a valued and respected partner with a strong reputation for client-centered, equitable, and comprehensive care.

Like agencies across the homeless response system, Larkin Street offered essential services to a vulnerable population throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, keeping their doors open and maintaining services despite the many challenges providers and our clients faced. For many, longstanding cracks became chasms as a result of the pandemic, increasingly fierce assaults on the rights of people who identify as LGBTQ+, and the racial reckoning demanding that systems do better. Larkin Street's proposal is a direct response to the "new normal" and our collective responsibility to meet the needs of youth most deeply impacted over the past two years through housing and services that support their financial self-sufficiency and enable them to thrive.

Larkin Street's proposal builds on its 40-year history meeting the needs of unaccompanied minors and transition age youth, ensuring that robust education and employment services are linked to transitional housing so that young people can put a permanent end to homelessness.

I offer my unqualified support of Larkin Street's proposal and look forward to our continued partnership.

Sincerely,

Kyriell Noon

Chief Executive Officer



Office of Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House 1236 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker of the House Pelosi,

I am writing on behalf of Supervisor Matt Haney's Office in support of Larkin Street Youth Services' proposal for FY23 Community Project Funding's Health and Human Services – Administration for Children and Families, Social Services Research & Demonstration account.

The San Francisco LGBT Center connects community members to opportunities, resources, and each other. Because of the disproportionate impact of homelessness on the lives of LGBT youth, we have partnered with Larkin Street for decades to ensure that this population is well-served. Our most recent partnership is through the Youth Access Point Collaborative, wherein Larkin Street and the Center served as entry points into the city's Coordinated Entry System meant to connect and navigate TAY experiencing homelessness with solutions to end their housing crisis.

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Rebecca Rolfe Executive Director

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