April 29, 2021

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger,

I am requesting funding for the Clearwater Police Department Mental Health Co-Responder Program in Fiscal Year 2022.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Clearwater, located at 645 Pierce St, Clearwater, FL 33756.

The funding would be used by the Clearwater Police Department for a pilot program that pairs a police officer with a mental health professional to respond to calls for persons in crisis and conduct follow-up with persons experiencing mental health challenges. This will reduce the number of mental health cases that enter the criminal justice system, help diffuse potential confrontations that result from 911 calls, and validate programs like this for use by other local law enforcement agencies across the country.

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

Sincerely,

Charlie Crist
UNITED STATES CONGRESSMAN