April 28, 2022

Hon. Rosa DeLauro
Chairwoman
House Appropriations Committee
2413 RHOB
Washington, DC 20515

Hon. Kay Granger
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
1026 LHOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting $1,000,000 in community project funding for the Griswold Child Development Center in fiscal year 2023. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Noble Initiative Foundation - located at 62837 Seattle Road, Griswold, IA 51535. The project location is Lots 2, 3, and 4 of Block 1 in the Fifth Addition to the City of Griswold, Iowa.

Community project funding would be used to construct the Griswold Child Development Center, which includes constructing the facility and playground, purchasing furnishings and materials for children and staff, and adding a parking lot. The project is estimated to create at least 10 jobs at the facility. According to a 2018 Griswold Parent Survey and the Iowa Women’s Foundation, child care was identified as the second-highest need in Cass County - which includes Griswold. 35% of families stated they do not have adequate child care, 75% have had to miss work due to a disruption in care, and 43% have had to turn down expanded employment or a promotion due to child care concerns. There are 84 known children in the community under the age of four that are in need of childcare; however, there are only four available spots in licensed child care programs between Griswold and nearby Elliott and Lewis.

Using taxpayer funds to construct a child care facility in Griswold will help fill unmet needs in the community, support children’s healthy development, and provide much-needed assistance to working parents in the community.

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

Cindy Axne
Member of Congress IA-03