

JULIA LETLOW, Ph.D.
5TH DISTRICT, LOUISIANA

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1805

March 24, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chairwoman
House Committee on Appropriations
H-307, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Our Lady of the Angels Hospital Emergency Helipad Project in Fiscal Year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Our Lady of the Angels Hospital, located at 433 Plaza Street, Bogalusa, LA 70427.

The funding would be used to construct a helipad atop the ambulance canopy, with an elevator, to ensure safe and effective patient transport. Currently, patients are wheeled out of the emergency department, across a gravel parking lot, and through a grassy ballfield to be airlifted. Inclement weather and unreliable lighting add another layer to the challenges of these substandard conditions, from landing impediments to safe patient transport. Due to these hazards, some helicopters will not land in the field after dark, creating compounding issues for patient outcomes. It is important to note the hospital is the only full-service acute care hospital and birthing facility within a 45-minute radius. This project is a good use of taxpayer funding as it will significantly improve healthcare access for the residents of the Town of Bogalusa and the surrounding rural areas.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized Section 306 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, 7 U.S. Code section 1926(a).

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

I request you give this project every consideration, consistent with all rules and regulations. Thank you for your attention to this request. Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



Julia Letlow, Ph.D.
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

JL/lj

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