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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
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COMMITTEE ON  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
WATER, OCEANS, AND WILDLIFE – CHAIR  
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RAILROADS, PIPELINES, AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS  
WATER RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT  
SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE  
CLIMATE CRISIS

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting \$100,000 in funding for The Ceres Community Project in fiscal year 2022.

The entity to receive funding for this project is The Ceres Community Project, located at 7351 Bodega Ave. Sebastopol, CA 95472.

The funding would be used for the Ceres Community Project, for installation of a 160 square foot walk-in freezer able to store three weeks of medically tailored meals, and a generator to protect that meal inventory and allow their main kitchen to operate during power shut offs. Eighty percent of those they serve are living on less than 200% of the federal poverty level, 73% are living alone, and one-third are Spanish Speaking. Sonoma and Marin counties face annual threats from planned power shut-offs and wild fires.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars and is anticipated to have many benefits. Since the 2017 Tubbs Fire which devastated Sonoma County, Ceres has served an essential role as an emergency food provider during disasters. They play two critical functions in support of medically and economically vulnerable community members with chronic health conditions: 1) providing home delivered meals, including shelf-stable meals, to those who are able to remain in their homes, and 2) providing individually packaged meals to those in medical shelters and other evacuation sites. Seventy-five percent of those served are patients of the Medicaid and/or Medicare programs. Ensuring that these patients with chronic health conditions have nutritionally appropriate meals reduces emergency department visits and hospitalizations, protecting health care and emergency resources, and reducing Medicaid and Medicare spending.

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

Sincerely,  
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress  
April 28, 2021

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