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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0502

COMMITTEE ON
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AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

May 3, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairwoman
House Appropriations Committee
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

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

Dear Chair Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the **Gualala Community Center Rebuilding** project in fiscal year 2025. The entity to receive funding for this project is **Gualala Community Center**, located at 47950 Center Street, Gualala, CA 95445.

The funding would be used for the rebuilding of a 7,500 square foot facility that was destroyed by an arson fire in February 2023. The original structure built in 1954 by volunteers was a multi-use facility that provided a central meeting location for public and private events on the south Mendocino and north Sonoma Coast.

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

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the facility will help generate economic value to the Gualala business community and serve as a safe haven for residents during catastrophic events. The venue will provide event services that will attract visitors to the community which will support local short term rentals. With an increase in visitors to the area, local retail businesses, restaurants, grocery stores and fuel stations will thrive and provide employment opportunities for residents.

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

Sincerely,



Jared Huffman
Member of Congress