



**NEW JERSEY STATE LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT OFFICES**

JAMES W. HOLZAPFEL
SENATOR

10TH DISTRICT
MONMOUTH AND OCEAN COUNTY
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BRICK, NJ 08724
(732) 840-9028
FAX: (732) 840-9757

GREGORY P. MCGUCKIN
ASSEMBLYMAN

PAUL M. KANITRA
ASSEMBLYMAN

April 17, 2025

The Honorable Chris Smith
New Jersey 4th Congressional District
2373 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

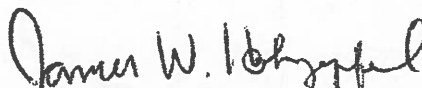
Dear Representative Smith,

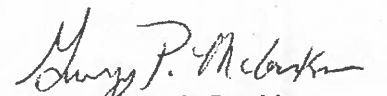
We are writing to express our support for Dottie's House's request for Fiscal Year 2026 Community Project Funding.


For over twenty-five years, Dottie's House has served the residents of Brick Township, New Jersey, providing a safe haven for victims of domestic violence and their children. As a transitional housing program, Dottie's House offers women emotional and financial counseling, parenting skills, and job training. Their children benefit from on-site tutoring, art therapy, and both individual and group counseling.

This funding would be instrumental in supporting Dottie's House's daily operations, enabling them to provide salaries for a full-time Case Worker and Program Director, as well as make vital updates to their facility. Any assistance you could provide in support of their request would be deeply appreciated. Dottie's House is a cornerstone of support and hope for the women and children in our community.

Sincerely,


James W. Holzapfel
Senator, 10th District


Gregory P. McGuckin
Assemblyman, 10th District


Paul M. Kanitra
Assemblyman, 10th District



TOWNSHIP OF BRICK

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

401 CHAMBERS BRIDGE ROAD, BRICK, N.J. 08723

Lisa Crate
Mayor

732-262-1240

Fax: 732-262-1149

mayor@twp.brick.nj.us

April 18, 2025

Congressman Chris Smith
Ocean County Constituent Service Center
33 Washington Street
Toms River, NJ 08753

To Congressman Smith,

Please accept this letter in support of Dottie's House application for Fiscal Year 2025 Community Project Funding (CPF) request for grant funding.

The grant application submitted by Dottie's House was approved by the House Appropriations Subcommittee, illustrating its strength and compatibility with delivering services in accordance with the Program's goals. Unfortunately, CPFs were removed from the final spending bill, and Dottie's House was advised that no applications were funded for FY 25.

This is disappointing news, and as a Mayor, gravely concerning for the women and children who need Dottie's House to rebuild their lives after fleeing domestic violence. Not funding these programs is, in effect, turning our backs on these people when they are at their most vulnerable and in need.

Dottie's House is exclusively dedicated to helping victims of domestic violence. They provide shelter for women and children over a two-year period as part of a transitional housing program, assisting an average of 16-20 women and 35-50 children annually. The program offers 17 fully equipped individual 1- to 3-bedroom apartments, including kitchens, washer/dryer units, 1 or 2 bathrooms and living rooms, furnished through grants and generous donations.

During their stay, Dottie's House staff provides comprehensive support to empower mothers towards financial and emotional independence. Their tailored program includes weekly one-on-one case management sessions covering various aspects such as family planning, parenting skills, housekeeping, budget management, job training, education, health/nutrition, stress management, and fostering personal growth. The children specifically receive services with on-site tutors, an art therapist, and supportive individual and group counseling. Dottie's House also

looks for alternative grants (i.e. equine-assisted therapy) and social services to support the families to help them rebuild a healthy family life.

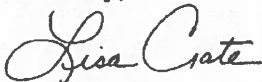
The current need within Dottie's House is the following:

- Dottie's House has been in existence for 25 years and requires apartment renovations including new appliances, and repairs within 10 of its apartments to include cabinetry, toilets, and flooring.
- Dottie's House requires funding that can support yearly a Case Worker and Program Director. An estimate at current rates of 2025: caseworker's hours combined should be at no less than 50 hours/week at a rate no less than \$40/hour and a clinical director/supervisor should be at a minimum of 5 hours per week at a rate no less than \$75/hour, estimate of \$123,500 per year. Projected for 2026 with the addition of staff we are estimating a payroll of approximately \$333,499 per year. The salaries we have included widely depend upon the education level, certification, and years within the profession.

As you can see, Dottie's House is a vital program in our community and needs your support. I know you will work tirelessly to restore Community Project Funding requests.

Thank you for your continued commitment to essential programs and services that assist those most in need.

Sincerely,



Lisa Crate
Mayor

Cc: Mary Furnato, Dottie's House



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

P.O. BOX 2191 • 101 HOOPER AVENUE
TOMS RIVER, NJ 08754

JENNIFER BACCHIONE
jbacchione@co.ocean.nj.us
732.929.2001

ROBERT S. ARACE
rarace@co.ocean.nj.us
732.929.2116

April 16, 2025

The Honorable Christopher H. Smith
Congressman, 4th District
33 Washington Street
PO Box 728
Toms River, NJ 08753

Re: Letter in Support of Dottie's House

Dear Congressman Smith:

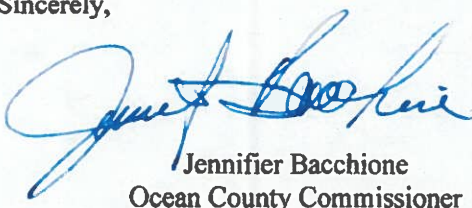
On behalf of the Ocean County Board of Commissioners, we express our strong support for Dottie's House, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization providing transitional housing and vital support services to women and families fleeing abuse.

Dottie's House delivers safe housing, counseling, legal assistance, job training referrals, and other essential services through individualized case management, helping residents rebuild their lives with dignity and stability.

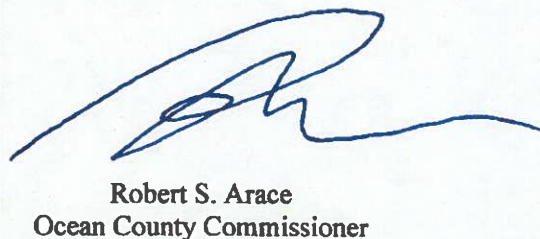
We understand the organization is seeking funding to refurbish its 25-year-old facility and expand staffing to meet increasing demand. These improvements will enhance service delivery and ensure continued support for survivors in Ocean County and surrounding communities.

As representatives of the Board, we fully support this funding effort and commend Dottie's House for its longstanding commitment to protecting and empowering survivors of abuse.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Bacchione
Ocean County Commissioner



Robert S. Arace
Ocean County Commissioner

/dag

C: Members, Board of County Commissioners
Michael J. Fiure, Administrator
Tracy Maksel, Deputy Administrator
Tristin J. Collins, Deputy Administrator



SPECIAL ASSISTANCE/ACCOMMODATIONS available, please call (732) 929-2116.





BOROUGH OF POINT PLEASANT

OCEAN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

April 17, 2025

The Honorable Christopher H. Smith
Congressman, 4th District
33 Washington Street
PO Box 728
Toms River, NJ 08753

Re: Dottie's House Continuation of Services

Dear Congressman Smith,

Please be advised that Dottie's House, a woman's inhouse long term residence facility, is a program that desperately needs Federal Funding to continue their Mission Statement of Care and Education for Battered Women.

This organization provides much needed programs to stop the cycle of battered women.

I urgently support Federal Funding for this Program.

Regards,

Robert A. Sabosik
Mayor



**MANASQUAN
BANK**
est. 1874

Point Pleasant Branch
2307 Rt. 88
Point Pleasant, NJ 08742
P: (732) 295-0004

April 17, 2025

Congressman Chris Smith
PO Box 728
Toms River, NJ 08754

Re: Dotties House

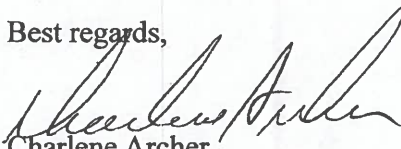
Dear Congressman Smith:

Dotties House has proven to be a vital nonprofit organization in the community by assisting woman to transition into society. They are a facility that provides survivors of domestic violence with the tools and guidance to achieve financial and emotional independence.

Manasquan Bank prides itself in assisting the community and has chosen this worthy organization to support throughout the year. With two Manasquan Bank employees being on the Board of Directors. The Bank has also sponsored many of the Fundraising events, volunteered in events, and provided a grant.

Please contact me at 733-295-0004 if you have any questions regarding our support.

Best regards,



Charlene Archer
Vice President