

Donna Rubin
122 Patton Ave.
Princeton, NJ 08540
609-802-1640

April 25, 2022

Congressman Chris Smith
2373 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Christopher Smith,

On behalf of my 29 year old nephew Bob who has autism and attends the Hope Program at Allaire Community Farm, Wall township NJ I wanted to share my gratitude.

When one has a disability programs/employment typically are extremely limited. Being on the farm with animals, with a supportive staff, is the best thing for Bob. It is obvious to see how this program provides Bob with job training satisfaction, which impacts his self-esteem and motivates him to engage socially with peers, and staff. Additionally, since the Farm is open to the community, he also has the opportunity to engage with a larger part of the population.

This program is a treasure and we feel so fortunate for this opportunity for Bob to gain a variety of work skills from animal care, growing vegetables, and farm market related activities. We would love to see this program grow. By helping individuals with disabilities reach their potential this program changes not only individual, but the lives of families, and thereby the greater community for the benefit of all.

Regards,

Donna Rubin

April 25, 2022

Congressman Chris Smith

112 Village Center Drive

2nd Floor

Freehold, NJ 07728

RE: Letter of Support for a Grant from the "Community Project Funding Request"

Dear Congressman Smith,

My name is Andrew Schear and I am the owner of Bloomfield Networks, an NJ-based IT consulting firm. However today I am writing about my autistic brother, Robert Schear, III. I became Robert's legal guardian after we lost both of our parents to illness in 2009 & 2020.

I am writing to affirm my support for the HOPE Program to receive a grant to renovate their farm market under the Community Project Funding request program. HOPE is a community oriented non-profit and I truly believe they should receive this grant because they are performing a wonderful service to the community by offering the programming that they do to an often underserved part of our population.

Their programming also enables me to continue to run my business (and protect other NJ businesses by providing cybersecurity services) with the comfort that my brother is in good hands during the day and receives engaging programming that keeps him fit mentally and physically. I regularly tell people that Robert won the lottery by being able to attend this wonderful program.

If you have any questions about this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'AS' or 'AJS' with a stylized flourish.

Andrew F. Schear

(848) 459-9868

andrew.shear@bloomfieldnetworks.com



MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY

Marjorie K. Unterberg
School of Nursing and Health Studies

April 26, 2022

Dear Congressman Chris Smith,

My name is Patricia DeAngelis and I am the secretary for the BSN program at Monmouth University. I am writing this letter of support for the Allaire Community Farm. Our students have had the wonderful opportunity to have their community clinical at the farm working with the H.O.P.E program for the past couple of years.

I believe the program has been most beneficial to our students, especially through the pandemic when a lot of clinical experiences were put on hold. Every one of our students has shared with us the positive experiences they have had with the program and how it has helped them build further on their skills.

The Allaire Community Farm has not only helped our community by providing the students the opportunity of a positive experience but the surrounding community by benefiting children of all ages and diverse populations with the resources they provide.

I believe that with an increase in grant funding, the Allaire Community Farm would be able to further improve these resources by helping to renovate the farm market. I hope that our students will continue to have their community clinical experience with the Allaire Community Farm working with the H.O.P.E program.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Patricia DeAngelis

Laurie Grubaugh

193 Rumson Road

Rumson, NJ 07760

Laurie.grubaugh@comcast.net

April 26, 2022

Congressman Chris Smith

112 Village Center Dr. 2nd Floor

Raintree Shopping Center

Freehold, NJ 07728

Dear Congressman Smith:

I am writing to you in support of a grant for the "Community Project Funding" to renovate the farm market at Allaire Community Farm located at 1923 Baileys Corner Road Wall Township, NJ 07719. I cannot speak enough about this establishment. The farm is a GREAT community oriented non-profit and has "saved" my daughter, who has Down Syndrome. The farm opened a program for adults with special needs and my daughter was incredibly fortunate to have been in the program from the start. The work that these individuals are learning has been so beneficial and productive and inclusive. Isn't that what we all want for our adult children with special needs. I am sure you can understand what I am saying as a parent yourself.

The farm market does need work and obviously needs the funds to do it. Working on the farm in all capacities and then being able to see your work be displayed and sold in "our" market as my daughter calls it just enables such a great feeling of accomplishment!

My daughter was in her last year of school when Covid hit. We were not in any adult program yet and nothing was open for us to explore. It was a very difficult time for everyone, but I watched as my daughter began to regress and lose all the accomplishments, she and we have worked so hard to achieve. When I was lucky enough to hear about ACF, I really had no idea if it would be a good fit, but I had nothing for her. When I tell you this has been a "gift" is using the term loosely. I am SO grateful for ACF and will support them any way I can. I hope our request will be granted and thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Laurie Grubaugh



2517 Highway 35, Building C, Suite 101,
Manasquan, NJ 08736
848-895-3500

April 24, 2022

The Honorable Christopher Smith
Washington, DC Office
2373 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Smith:

Bridging The Gap for Veterans is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization led by military veterans who fully understand the career transition experience from the military to civilian employment. We open career doors to Veteran Friendly Employers who are searching for such experienced, disciplined employment candidates.

This letter is in support of the Allaire Community Farm and their submission for the "Community Project Request."

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the commitment of the Allaire Community Farm to the efforts in helping U.S. military veterans. From personal experience I know that the Farm has provided its facilities free of charge to veterans during Memorial Day (in May) and Veterans Day (in November) weekends. This has not only acknowledged veterans' contributions to our nation, but has, with the peacefulness of its surroundings, also been a refuge for veterans who are dealing with PTSD.

The Farm is also making its facilities available for the Monmouth County Sheriff's Veterans Service Counsel of which I am a presiding officer.

Further, and in special relation to our Bridging The Gap efforts, the Farm has offered to host the Veterans Job Fair we are scheduling for September of this year.

I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge all that the Allaire Community Farm does on behalf of U.S. military veterans.

Sincerely,

Michael Ferraro
President



**Building
Partnerships
With Families**

Therese Hendrickson
Chair

Phyllis Lockwood-Geis
Secretary

Tom Schember
Treasurer

Amy Bellina

Madelyn Curtis

Sara Haight

Gary S. Linington

M. Matthew Mannion

Melanie Moore

Ginger Mulligan

**Deborah Rosen-
Haight**

Jim Scavone

Al Soles

Elnora Williams

Kathy Collins
Executive Director

April 25th, 2022

Congressman Chris Smith
Washington, DC Office
2373 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Community Project Funding Request

Dear Congressman Chris Smith,

MonmouthCares is a non-profit Care Management Organization (CMO) in Monmouth County, NJ serving youth and families up to age 21. We are part of the NJ Children's System of Care that helps youth and families with emotional, behavioral, substance use, and intellectual/developmental disability needs. Our Health and Wellness Team also helps our families to improve health care access and managing their medical challenges. We are providing this letter of support for the Allaire Community Farm located in Wall, NJ to be a recipient of your Community Project Funding

Allaire Community Farm has our full support to receive this funding and has been a continuous collaborator with MonmouthCares and the Monmouth County Children's Interagency Coordinating Council (CIACC) for the past 6 years. Their intended usage to renovate their farm market helps them move towards their goal of being a year-round facility that provides support and services to at-risk youth and the intellectual/developmentally delayed population. Allaire Community Farm has continuously partnered with us to deliver services such as therapeutic horseback riding and other experiential services directly to youth we work with, as well as partnering with our CIACC to host our county's Children's Mental Health Awareness Day, which recognizes SAMSHA's National Day of Recognition for the importance of mental health awareness in our youth. Each year the farm graciously steps up to provide the space and their facilities for us to host this crucial event at, without asking for compensation or anything in return from our local system of care.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me at cmajczan@monmouthcares.org or call me at 732-757-5503. We cannot be more excited that you are considering Allaire Community Farm for this funding as they have been an excellent example of a community partner within our local children's system of care.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chad Majczan".

Chad Majczan
Director of Community Relations and Resource Development
MonmouthCares, Inc.

Monmouth County Board of County Commissioners

THOMAS A. ARNONE
DIRECTOR

SUSAN M. KILEY
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

LILLIAN G. BURRY
NICK DIROCCO
ROSS F. LICITRA



HALL OF RECORDS
ONE EAST MAIN STREET
FREEHOLD, NJ 07728
TELEPHONE: 732-431-7000

April 25, 2022

Congressman Chris Smith
112 Village Center Drive
Second Floor
Freehold, N.J. 07728

Dear Congressman Smith,

Please accept this letter in support of Allaire Community Farm, which is seeking federal funding for the improvement and expansion of their farm in Wall Township.

Allaire Community Farm has become an integral part of the community over the years by serving as an animal rescue, as well as a facility that caters to the delicate needs of those with special needs. The staff has done a tremendous job in serving our most vulnerable residents and I truly commend them for their efforts.

In my previous role as Mayor of Wall Township, I worked closely with the Farm on various community related initiatives. These initiatives served local families and individuals with special needs. The community related activities undertaken at the farm have greatly enriched the lives of residents throughout Monmouth County.

Thank you for your consideration in reviewing the Allaire Community Farm's request. I am proud to recommend them for federal funding and look forward to the impact these improvements will have on the Monmouth County community. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions in this or any other matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dominick DiRocco", followed by a horizontal line.

Dominick DiRocco
Monmouth County Board of County Commissioners



Disability Services & Advocacy, LLC

Lifetime Planning and Services Improving the Lives of People with Disabilities and Their Families

Dear Congressman Chris Smith,

I'm a Support Coordinator for people with disabilities and I'm writing to you today for a letter of Support for a Grant from the "Community Project Funding Request" to Allaire Community Farm. I have a few individuals that really enjoy going to Allaire Community Farm in increasing their ability to learn to one day work there or another farm.

The grant would really help them with renovate their farm market to have these individuals work at and learn how to grow and be an integral part of their community. Allaire farm has grown over the last few years with individual with disabilities and I know from visiting during the year that they're proven and will continue to have success in the future.

Allaire Farm has proven leadership at the top and with all their staff. All staff work hard to have the individual achieve their goals using DDD prevocational services. My individuals love going everyday and work hard to achieve their goals of working one day and earn their own money.

I appreciate your time and to really consider Allaire Community Farm for the grant which will renovate their farm market to better the community and individual with disabilities that work there.

Sincerely,

Christopher Rogers

Support Coordinator
Disability Services & Advocacy, LLC
Christopher.rogers@dsausa.net

Company Website: www.dsausa.net



NEW JERSEY STATE LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT OFFICE
30TH DISTRICT

April 26, 2022

Honorable Christopher Smith
United States Congressman, 4th District
112 Village Center Drive, Second Fl.
Raintree Shopping Center
Freehold, NJ 07728

Dear Congressman Smith:

Please accept this correspondence in support of Allaire Community Farm's request for funding to renovate their 100-year-old farm market. The farm market is vital to Allaire Community Farm and this space is used to sell products produced by the farm and the groups that they assist including individuals with special needs and veterans.

As you are aware, Allaire Community Farm utilizes rescued animals and the working farm environment to nurture through nature. In particular, the farm is focused on helping special needs adults and children, teens with mental health issues, veterans, and people battling cancer.

Allaire Community Farm is a tremendous resource that gives back to the Wall Township community and other individuals. Thus, we fully support their Community Project Funding Request to renovate the farm market and make it safe and comfortable.

Thank you for your attention to this request and please feel free to contact us if we can ever be of assistance in this or any other matter.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Singer
Senator, 30th District

Edward H. Thomson
Assemblyman, 30th District

OCEAN COUNTY OFFICE
1771 MADISON AVENUE, SUITE 202
LAKEWOOD, NJ 08701
PHONE: 732-987-5669
FAX: 732-901-0587

MONMOUTH COUNTY OFFICE
1967 HIGHWAY 34, BUILDING C, SUITE 202
WALL, NJ 07719
PHONE: 732-974-0400
FAX: 732-974-2564

**Donald Weir
2092 Misty Hollow Drive
Wall, NJ 07719**

April 26,2022

**Congressman Chris Smith
112 Village Center Drive
2nd Floor Raintree Shopping Center
Freehold, NJ 07728**

Congressman Smith:

As you are aware, the Allaire Community Farm has applied for the “Community Project Funding Request” grant to renovate their market. We are asking for your support.

The Allaire Community Farm has partnered with The HOPE Program to provide prevocational training for special needs adults with varying disabilities. Our daughter Annie is a 33-year-old woman with Down Syndrome, who has benefited tremendously from her participation in this partnership.

Please support the approval of their application as they are an invaluable part of our community.

Sincerely,

**Don Weir
908 433 8244**



MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY

Marjorie K. Unterberg
School of Nursing and Health Studies

Congressman Chris Smith,

This is a letter of support for Allaire Community Farm and The Hope Program for the "Community Project Funding Request" grant. This grant is being requested to update the community market at the farm.

For the past several years, Allaire Community Farm has welcomed the Pre-Licensure BSN students at the Hope Program. Our nursing students have gotten to experience an amazing program for adults with learning disabilities. They have been given the opportunity to work with these clients and provided health teaching using group projects. The students state that this has been the most rewarding clinical experience, and many go on to volunteer at the farm. The Hope Project gives our students the rare opportunity to work with these special clients that they may not see in other clinical settings.

I fully support Allaire Community Farm in obtaining these grant funds to enhance and improve the resources to provide amazing programs for the community, including The Hope Program. Please consider assisting the farm with their mission in working with the community.

Thank you,

Beth S. Gough

Interim BSN Academic Coordinator
Director of Nursing Skills and Technology
Specialist Professor, First Year Advisor
Monmouth University, Marjorie K. Unterberg School of Nursing and Health Studies
400 Cedar Avenue West Long Branch, NJ
O- (732)263-5602
bgough@monmouth.edu

Monmouth County Board of County Commissioners

THOMAS A. ARNONE
DIRECTOR

SUSAN M. KILEY
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

LILLIAN G. BURRY
NICK DiROCCO
ROSS F. LICITRA



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FREEHOLD, NJ 07728
TELEPHONE: 732-431-7000

April 25th 2022

Congressman Chris Smith
112 Village Center Drive
Second Floor
Freehold, N.J. 07728

Dear Congressman Smith,

Please accept this letter in support of Allaire Community Farm, which is seeking federal funding for the improvement and expansion of their farm in Wall Township.

Allaire Community Farm has become an integral part of the community over the years by serving as an animal rescue, as well as a facility that caters to the delicate needs of those with special needs. The staff has done a tremendous job in serving our most vulnerable residents and I truly commend them for their efforts.

In my role as Director of the Monmouth County Board of County Commissioners, I have worked with the farm on my own healthy eating initiative that incorporates young students from both an urban and suburban school. I can attest to the professionalism and dedication the farm's staff has when it comes to educating our youth on the importance of eating healthy and local produce. It is wonderful and encouraging to see fourth-grade students truly excited about eating salads.

Thank you for your consideration in reviewing the Allaire Community Farm's request. I am proud to recommend them for federal funding and look forward to the impact these improvements will have on the Monmouth County community. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions in this or any other matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas A. Arnone". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Thomas A. Arnone
Director Monmouth County Board of Commissioners

"SEPTEMBER 2d, 1609 THIS IS A VERY GOOD LAND TO FALL IN WITH AND A PLEASANT LAND TO SEE."

Entry in the log of Henry Hudson's Ship Half Moon made after the Dutch Explorer became the first European to come ashore in what was later known as Monmouth County

TOWNSHIP OF WALL

2700 Allaire Road
P.O. Box 1168
Wall, New Jersey 07719-1168

Kevin P. Orender, Mayor
Dan Becht, Deputy Mayor
Timothy J. Farrell
Thomas M. Kingman
Erin M. Mangan



Kevin P. Orender
Mayor

(732) 449-8444 Ext. 2200
FAX (732) 449-8996

April 26, 2022

Congressman Chris Smith
112 Village Center Dr.
Freehold, NJ 07728

Dear Congressman Smith:

Please accept this letter of support for Allaire Community Farms of Wall Township New Jersey. Allaire Community Farms is a 501(c)(3) NJ Non-Profit that has a focus of special needs individuals, teens with mental health issues and local families battling cancer in the community. The farm offers programs that are designed to aide members of the community to lead healthier lives through equestrian therapy and organic gardening practices.

The Township Committee believes that Allaire Community Farms would be a viable candidate to receive the federal Community Project Funding to assist in the renovation and rehabilitation of the Farm Market Building.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Kevin P. Orender, Mayor

Maureen Maimone
711 Bowne Road
Ocean, NJ 07712
momaimone@aol.com

April 25, 2022

To Whom It May Concern,

I was recently made aware that Allaire Community Farm is applying for the "Community Project Funding Request" grant to renovate their market store. I cannot think of a more deserving recipient for this grant.

My personal experience with the Allaire Community Farm began several years ago when I would occasionally frequent the farm with my son, JC. JC is 37 years old and has Down syndrome. We both enjoyed the beauty and peace at the farm, along with visiting the animals and purchasing the farm fresh produce. We remember attending the Community Day back in September of 2017 and seeing all that the farm had to offer.

I eventually heard about the H.O.P.E. program at the Allaire Community Farm, and immediately knew it was the perfect fit for my son. JC started as an Intern in the Fall of 2021, which was a perfect way for him to get back into the cycle of life after Covid. Since his first day there, the farm has become a big part of his life. He looks forward to his time there, and learning about all that the farm has to offer to him, as well as the other Interns.

I feel so blessed that Allaire Community Farm has agreed to sponsor this program, which is unlike any I have heard of before. JC talks about his days at the farm, telling me about the animals and their names, the various chores he has completed with such pride, the other interns JC hangs out with at lunch, as well as the produce or plants he has helped pick or package for the "Market", as he refers to it, which brings me back to the purpose of my letter.

The "Market" is in some ways the heart of the Allaire Community Farm. It is the first building you enter as you are welcomed to this beautiful piece of paradise in Monmouth County. But unfortunately, the market is in need of some TLC. With some help from this grant, the market could possibly remain open year round, selling healthy and fresh produce options, as well as many more items that the community would enjoy. The H.O.P.E. Program could also benefit tremendously from a renovated market, where the Interns could practice social skills greeting visitors, practice money skills assisting with purchases, practice organizational skills helping to stock the store, and even entrepreneurial skills selling crafts that they create.

I have to say that picking up my son from the farm on Friday afternoons is the best start to my weekend. I see the interns and teachers finishing up their day, I see families visiting and experiencing the farm, and I witness the change of seasons, where I am reminded of the circle of life. Allaire Community Farm is an amazing place, that lives up to its name - it is a treasure to our community. I strongly urge your consideration to awarding this much needed grant to the Allaire Community Farm, where I believe they would use this grant to further their goodwill and stewardship to our community.

Thank you,

Maureen Maimone