



Township of Lakewood

MUNICIPAL BUILDING
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Raymond G. Coles, *Mayor*
Menashe Miller, *Deputy Mayor*

Committee Members

Albert Akerman
Michael J. D'Elia
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The Honorable Chris Smith
Washington, DC Office
2373 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

April 20, 2022

Dear Honorable Congressman,

I'm writing this letter to support the request from Lakewood Community Services Corp. (LCSC) for \$1,000,000 in Community Project Funding from the House Appropriations Committee, Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Health Facilities Construction to assist them in the expansion of their mental health center.

LCSC is at the frontlines of servicing the mental and behavioral health needs of the greater Lakewood community. For over 15 years, LCSC has been a key partner in servicing our community. LCSC has worked in close partnership with Lakewood Township to provide an array of services and all projects have been implemented professionally and successfully.

LCSC has provided outstanding leadership and dedication in meeting the critical mental health needs of our community. LCSC has been the go-to agency to provide services to vulnerable children, family and seniors in crisis during the pandemic. Despite shutdowns and restrictions, LCSC therapists went out of their way to ensure the Lakewood's most vulnerable populations, including seniors and children, received counseling, psychiatric and needed support services. Given the new realities, it is essential that LCSC expand and modernize its facility to ensure adequate capacity and safety protocols.

Congressman Smith – Being that Lakewood is the largest Township in your district, I am confident that you will prioritize this application for submission, thereby ensuring that the mental health needs of your constituents are met. Please make this a priority among your many worthy funding requirements.

Should you need any further information, please don't hesitate to reach out to me.

Sincerely,

Mayor Ray Coles

