

ADELITA S. GRIJALVA
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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March 23, 2026

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am respectfully requesting \$203,750 in funding to expand Chiricahua Community Health Center's diabetes care program in Fiscal Year 2027.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Chiricahua Community Health Centers, Incorporated, located at 1205 F Avenue, Douglas, AZ 85607. The project address is 1100 F Ave, Douglas, AZ 85607.

The funding would be used to enhance diabetes care in Douglas, AZ, and the surrounding communities by introducing scanners for diabetic retinopathy and osteoporosis, and providing vehicles for home delivery of chronic medications for those with transportation barriers. This proposal will purchase three vehicles for home delivery of medications not only to Douglas and the surrounding community but throughout Cochise County. Home delivery ensures that critical, life-saving medications reach patients consistently each month. The majority of Chiricahua's home delivery patients are dependent on insulin to control their diabetes or require medications for heart disease. Retinal screeners offer a quick, examination that does not require an eye specialist and can be completed in a primary care office during a routine visit. Additionally, diabetes increases the risk of osteoporosis. Bone density scanners are available at Cochise County hospitals for those with insurance. Unfortunately, there is no hospital in Douglas. Having a DEXA (dual-energy x-ray absorptiometry) scanner would benefit not only those without insurance or with diabetes but the general community as well.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because diabetes is a chronic condition that effects not only physical health but also mental and social well-being. It is the leading cause of illness and death in the US. The poverty rate is 28% in Douglas with 60% of households classified as low-income. Twelve percent of Douglas individuals lack health insurance. Many Douglas residents have diabetes but lack the financial means to properly take care of themselves to reduce costly complications like blindness, kidney failure, and heart disease. According to the CDC, the total annual cost of diabetes in the United States is \$413 billion, making it the most expensive chronic condition in our nation. Keeping diabetes under control through effective disease management can lower risks of diabetes complications. For example: effective blood sugar management can reduce the risk of eye disease, kidney disease, and nerve disease by 40%. Blood pressure management can reduce the risk of heart disease and stroke by 33% to

50%. Improved cholesterol levels can reduce cardiovascular complications by 20% to 50%.
Regular eye exams and timely treatment could prevent up to 90% of diabetes-related blindness.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized under the Public Health Service Act.

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Adelita S. Grijalva". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Adelita S. Grijalva

Member of Congress