

RAÚL M. GRIJALVA
3RD DISTRICT, ARIZONA

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES
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HIGHER EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE INVESTMENT
SUBCOMMITTEE

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April 23, 2021

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro
Chairwoman
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Appropriations

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger,

I am requesting \$750,000 for the Tohono O'odham Nation for development of a permanent Children's Home in fiscal year 2022.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Tohono O'odham Nation located at P.O. Box 837 Sells, AZ 85634. The location of the project is Tohono O'odham Nation HWY 86 Business Loop C/O Property & Supply P.O. Box 837 Sells, Arizona 85634.

The funding will be used to support development and construction of a permanent Children's Home that would encompass three group homes respectively for boys, girls and young children in need of housing, care and support services. The Nation currently provides housing and services for fourteen children in two temporary group homes on the Reservation, which are single family residences modified to accommodate the needs of the children and staff. The Nation also provides residential placement for 73 other children through contracts and referrals to temporary residences off the Reservation. The Nation wants to bring the majority of these children home to the Reservation, so that the care and education of the children will reflect O'odham values, language and Himidag (the culture, way of life, and values unique to the O'odham). In addition to being able to provide culturally appropriate services, a Children's Home on the Reservation would better protect the children's health, safety and welfare, and ensure more coordinated and centralized provision of services. It also would allow for more efficient supervision of the children and reduce the costs of locating and financing foster and residential off-reservation care for Tohono O'odham children. In fiscal year 2020, the Nation incurred \$3.24 million dollars in costs for residential care, and another \$218,000 for foster care for its children.

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

Sincerely,



Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress