

RAÚL M. GRIJALVA
3RD DISTRICT, ARIZONA

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April 27, 2022

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger,

I am requesting \$167,700 under the Fiscal Year 2023, Department of Education, Elementary and Secondary Education – Innovation & Improvement account for Jobs for Arizona's Graduates, Inc (JAG) located in Phoenix, AZ 8505. The entity receiving the project is located 3320 W. Cheryl Dr. Ste B220, Phoenix, AZ 85051. The locations of the project are **Desert Oasis Elementary School**, 8802 W. McDowell Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85037 and **Sheely Farms Elementary School**, 9450 W. Encanto Street, Phoenix, AZ 85037

This funding request is a valuable use of taxpayer funds as it will support Arizona students who have been put under stress with the challenges of remote learning; issues of access, emotional and mental stress, and economic hardship that have disproportionately affected an already marginalized demographics. For decades, JAG has served this population, and worked closely with students and families to address social/emotional, environmental, physical and socio-economic barriers to learning. As Covid-19 has continued to impact JAG youth and families, it has become clear just how critical JAG is to the youth served. JAG Coordinators are put in place as a targeted support for a group of 40-50 students for the full-year, and beyond. While delivering life skills, career and college readiness skills curriculum, JAG Coordinators build rapport with students and families that give them a deeper understanding of, and ability to respond to individualized needs.

In short, JAG is a lifeline for students, and now more than ever, they have relied on the supportive relationship of their JAG Coordinator to help them through challenging times. JAG's has more than 40-years of history serving youth in the Tolleson community, with more than 10 years in partnership with Tolleson Elementary School District. The district, and community already invest in the success of these programs, and this is a fantastic opportunity for the community to give back in support of serving more young people in need. I appreciate your time and consideration of this important project.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Raúl M. Grijalva". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "R".

Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress