April 30, 2021

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for the City of Hope Duarte Medical Center - Expansion of Blood Stem Cell Transplantation Availability to Diverse and Older Patients with Post-Cyclophosphamide Dose Optimization for GVHD Prophylaxis in fiscal year 2022.

The entity to receive funding for this project is City of Hope Duarte Medical Center at 1500 East Duarte Road, Duarte, CA 91010

This funding would go towards the purchase of a CytekTM Aurora machine to further examine the human immune system in their blood stem cell transplants patients, critically important for their ongoing National Cancer Institute (NCI) research.

Blood stem cell transplantation can be the sole curative approach for many blood cancers. However, finding a suitable donor can be very challenging for individuals based on their demographics, and transplant therapy has been difficult for older adults due to major toxicities. The CytekTM Aurora will help City of Hope understand how to best treat these transplant patients, especially for racial/ethnic minorities and older adults. Oftentimes these communities have been disfranchised from access to this highly curative procedure. Also, the machine will help City of Hope understand how to make transplant therapy safer for these vulnerable populations.

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

Sincerely,

Grace F. Napolitano
Member of Congress