



736 F Street  
Arcata CA 95521

City Manager  
707-822-5953

Environmental Services  
707-822-8184

Police  
707-822-2428

Recreation  
707-822-7091

Community Development  
707-822-5955

Finance  
707-822-5951

Engineering  
707-825-2128

Transportation  
707-822-3775

May 18, 2021

The Honorable Alex Padilla  
112 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

**RE: Support for Humboldt County's Crisis Stabilization Unit Youth Treatment Project**

Dear Senator Padilla:

On behalf of the City of Arcata, I am writing in strong support of Humboldt County's request for \$575,000 in Congressionally Directed Funding for the Crisis Stabilization Unit Youth Treatment Project.

Funding for this project would be used to rehabilitate Humboldt County's Crisis Stabilization Unit and inpatient Psychiatric Health Facility in order to accommodate the treatment of minors. The County currently has waivers from the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to treat minors at the Crisis Stabilization Unit and Psychiatric Health Facility but is unable to exercise them due to constraints with the physical layout of the units. Moving the Crisis Stabilization Unit downstairs and converting the vacated space into a wing of the Psychiatric Health Facility available to youth will allow the County's Health & Human Services Department to securely separate minors from adults patients, increase overall bed capacity, optimize bed utilization, and allow the County to stay in compliance with the conditions of the waiver from the state DHCS.

This project is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars as it would address unmet needs for youth mental health crisis services, which are of critical importance to the local community. Currently, Humboldt County must transfer minors out-of-county for inpatient mental health treatment. Transferring minors for out-of-county care is extremely costly and separates youth from their families and support systems, increasing trauma and inhibiting recovery.

Again, I am pleased to write in strong support of Humboldt County's Crisis Stabilization Unit Youth Treatment Project and I urge you to seek federal funding to help advance this important work.

Should you have any questions regarding the City's support, please do not hesitate to contact City Manager Karen Diemer at 707-822-5953 or [kdiemer@cityofarcata.org](mailto:kdiemer@cityofarcata.org).

Sincerely,

  
Sofia Pereira, Mayor  
City of Arcata