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PAUL D. TONKO

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
20<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT, NEW YORK

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SUBCOMMITTEE ON RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

May 10, 2022

Kimberly A. Waller, Associate Commissioner  
Family and Youth Services Bureau  
Administration for Children and Families  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.  
330 C Street, S.W.,  
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Ms. Waller:

I write in support of the application from Safe, Inc. in Schenectady, New York to the Street Outreach Program.

Safe Inc. has been serving Schenectady and the surrounding counties for more than 37 years. In 1985, a unique coalition of members of the Schenectady community united to address serious concerns regarding teenage prostitution in Schenectady. These clergy, merchants, neighborhood activists, police, and other community leaders came together to assist young people who had been abused at home and ended up on the street where they were frequently exploited.

If awarded funding, Safe, Inc. will hire a full-time Street Outreach Case Manager and a full-time Street Outreach Worker to educate the community and provide support services to youth facing homelessness and human trafficking. Safe Inc.'s Street Outreach Program will identify street youth and minimize human trafficking situations through coordinating and sustaining partnerships. This will expand access to services to address the needs of homeless youth while minimizing human trafficking situations.

Like you, I am committed to improving the health and well-being of our country's youth. Your full and fair consideration of this request, consistent with current laws, rules, regulations, and agency policy, is appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul D. Tonko".

PAUL D. TONKO  
Member of Congress

PDT/npl