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Congress of the United States
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March 29, 2000

Jerralynn Ness, Executive Director
Community Action of Oregon
1001 SW Baseline Road
Hillsboro, OR 97123

Dear Jerralynn Ness:

I am so pleased to learn that the Community Action Organization's Head Start program is applying for federal expansion funds to implement both Full-Day Full-Year and Early Head Start programs.

These new initiatives will be wonderful additions to the high quality half-day Head Start services that CAO currently offers. They will also address begin to address the needs of working, low-income families by expanding Head Start services for very young children, ages 0-3, currently unavailable in Washington County.

Washington County has experienced enormous growth over the last decade. Unfortunately, in the midst of this general prosperity, there has been a steady increase in the number of low-income families struggling to make ends meet. The programs you are seeking to fund will help to address the needs of these low-income families.

I particularly want to commend your efforts to serve recent immigrant, minority and homeless families with these programs. Your goals of providing family-centered, comprehensive, culturally respectful resources for families reflects Oregon's priorities for promoting child well-being statewide.

I wish you the best of luck with these requests.

With warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Wu', with a long, sweeping underline.

David Wu
Member of Congress

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