



April 2, 2024

Dear Senators Sinema and Kelly,

I am writing to express my support for Flagstaff Shelter Services' congressionally directed spending request for the fiscal year 2025 appropriations process. Flagstaff Shelter Services is a critical community service provider caring for people experiencing homelessness in northern Arizona. Awarded funds will support the shovel-ready improvements of two former motels in Flagstaff to create 161 units of safe, non-congregate emergency shelter for diverse individuals and families experiencing homelessness in northern Arizona. The agency has already purchased both The Crown (a 58-unit property) and The Lantern (a 103-unit property) and is well prepared to make crucial site improvements so these locations may serve vulnerable community member experiencing a housing crisis for years to come. In a community with extremely limited non-congregate shelter options, this is a worthy and timely project. In fact, the Arizona Department of Housing has encouraged homeless service providers across the state to acquire blighted motels to help solve the housing crisis exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. As the non-profit organization has repeatedly in the past, Flagstaff Shelter Services is stepping up to the plate and rising to help meet this community challenge.

As the largest emergency shelter provider in northern Arizona, Flagstaff Shelter Services has experience designing and implementing projects to address identified community needs and is well versed in administering federal funds appropriately and expeditiously to accomplish this. This makes the agency and its proposed project a wise choice for a congressionally directed spending appropriation.

We thank you for your time and consideration.

*Becky Daggett*

On Behalf of The Flagstaff City Council

Mayor

City of Flagstaff