

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 27, 2018

Laura Rogers
Acting Assistant Attorney General
Office of Justice Programs
810 7th Street NW
Washington DC 20531

Dear Acting Assistant Attorney General Laura Rogers:

We write today regarding the Mid-Atlantic Network for Youth and Family Services' (dba MANY) application to the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Multi-State Mentoring Opportunities for Youth Initiative.

As a multi-state youth development network, MANY works with organizations serving youth and young adults at the highest risk for victimization and/or delinquency. MANY developed a training and technical assistance program that seeks to identify, cultivate, and replicate evidence-based practices. MANY was founded in 1988 and now connects more than 12,000 non-profit providers, funders, and researchers.

In 2018, the goal of the MANYs Mentoring+ proposal is to improve positive outcomes for underserved youth who are at-risk and high-risk through quality mentoring services that seek to increase youth's resiliency to emotional, social, and environmental factors leading to juvenile delinquency. If fully supported by OJJDP, MANY will subgrant awards to 14 competitively selected mentoring organizations serving approximately 2,030 youth in 15 states. Youth served will include those impacted by homelessness, parental incarceration, opioids and other drugs, human trafficking and exploitation, and the juvenile justice and child welfare systems.

Funding from OJJDP will enable MANY to provide ongoing training opportunities and resources for mentors and staff and facilitate family engagement. The Mentoring+ model is based on the Positive Youth Development approach and requires a set of rigorous standards for mentor recruitment, screening and assessment, training, matching and initiating, and monitoring and support. While participating in the Mentoring+ program, 99% of youth do not offend or re-offend, 86% of mentees identify feeling connected to a positive role model upon program exit, and 96% of youth exhibit positive changes in behavior, including increased protective factors that build resiliency.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of our views, and for your full and fair consideration of MANY's application to the Multi-State OJJDP FY2018 Mentoring Opportunities for Youth Initiative.

Sincerely,



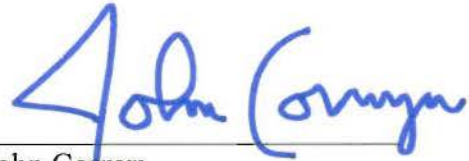
Robert P. Casey, Jr.
United States Senator



Pat Toomey
United States Senator



Cory A. Booker
United States Senator



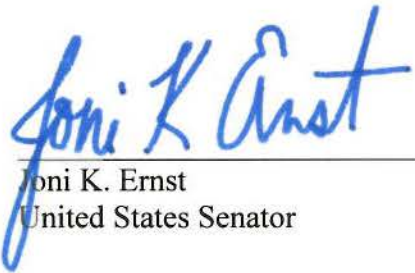
John Cornyn
United States Senator



Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator



Joni K. Ernst
United States Senator



Dean Heller
United States Senator



Tim Scott
United States Senator



Tina Smith
United States Senator