



April 7, 2022

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
1236 Longworth H.O.B.
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Madam Speaker,

LYRIC: Center for LGBTQ+ Youth respectfully requests a \$2 million grant from the Appropriations Committee to renovate our center in the Castro District of San Francisco. This renovation project will create 44% more usable space in the building allowing LYRIC to provide further critical services to LGBTQ+ youth.

Today LYRIC is the nation's second largest LGBTQ youth center, providing outreach to over 1,000 youth and direct services to 400-500 youth. Our renovation will enhance and add a combined total of 2,645 square footage to the ground floor and create a more warm and welcoming way to access LYRIC for our youth.

We are very grateful for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laura Lala Chavez". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping flourish at the end.

Laura Lala Chavez
Executive Director



Roma Guy, MSW Consultant

2768 - 22nd Street San Francisco, CA 94110-3446

romapguy@gmail.com 415.652-2710

April 25, 2022

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi

Speaker of the House H-232, U.S. Capitol

Washington, DC 20515

Dear Madam Speaker,

I am writing to express my strong support for LYRIC: Center for LGBTQQ+ Youth Appropriations Community Project Request, "LGBTQQ+ Youth Center Renovation."

LYRIC: Center for LGBTQQ+ Youth was founded 1988 by a group of youth and community allies who came together to throw a dance for LGBTQQ+ youth at the Women's Building in The Mission of San Francisco, and today, is the second oldest LGBTQQ+ youth center in the United States.

I was a strong supporter of LYRIC in 1988, followed by its growth to establish a Center. I remain a strong supporter to renovate the facility and expand its footprint by over 44% in response to increased demand to serve LGBTQQ+ youth in San Francisco.

The youth services and leadership are diverse and provide dynamic LGBTQQ+ youth with a Queer Lens. LYRIC staff, volunteers and SF city/county continue to support the Youth-Adult Partnership Model. The Model, draws upon Harm Reduction, HIV prevention, Anti-Domestic Violence, therapeutic, and other frameworks and engagement with youth. LYRIC practices youth development that is rooted in healthy boundaries, social justice, cultural awareness, and joy.

LYRIC is the leading provider of services for LGBTQQ+ and transgender/gender non-conforming (TGNC) youth in San Francisco. LYRIC, a community-based center serves more than 1,000 youth per a year, located at 127 Collingwood Street, in the heart of the Castro District. As proposed The Center is in desperate need of repairs and renovations to support their ongoing youth development and opportunity. LYRIC participants served in FY21, 88% were low-income, 52% had mental health needs, 43% reported histories of violence, 56% lived with disabilities, 37% were homeless/unstably housed, 27% had justice system histories, and 19% had been in foster care. LGBTQQ+ youth make up 46% of homeless youth (ages 11-24) in San Francisco.

In the past three years alone, LYRIC's programs have nearly tripled. Expansion is being driven by the increased youth demand for LYRIC programs including space for group support and for individual counseling. The project will expand LYRIC's space on the property by 44%, increase

accessibility, improve air filtration systems, enhance outdoor space, and add more group program and counseling rooms. Renovation will enhance and add a combined total of 2,645 square footage to the ground floor. LYRIC needs a renovated space that fosters connection to each other and the LGBTQQ+ community.

Nationally, LGBTQQ+ youth are more likely than cisgender and heterosexual youth to experience homelessness (120% more likely), unstable housing/family rejection (67% of families make negative comments about LGBTQQ people) or live in foster care (30%). Now more than ever LGBTQQ+ youth need our support.

Thank you for your leadership and many years of support for LGBTQQ+ youth consideration of LYRIC'S \$2M request.

Sincerely yours

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Roma P. Guy', followed by a period.

Roma P. Guy, MSW
Former SF Health Commissioner
Current Member of the LYRIC Capital Campaign



**SAN FRANCISCO
STATE UNIVERSITY**

**STUDENT AFFAIRS & ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT
HEALTH PROMOTION & WELLNESS**

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The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House H-232, U.S. Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

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I am writing to express my strong support for LYRIC: Center for LGBTQQ+ Youth Appropriations Community Project Request, "LGBTQQ+ Youth Center Renovation."

LYRIC: Center for LGBTQQ+ Youth was founded 1988 by a group of youth and community allies who came together to throw a dance for LGBTQQ+ youth at the Women's Building in The Mission of San Francisco, and today, is the second oldest LGBTQQ+ youth center in the United States.

LYRIC has continued to have this model reflected in their work, which continues to use a Youth-Adult Partnership Model. They are a diverse group of Youth Development Practitioners with a Queer Lens; LYRIC draws upon Harm Reduction, HIV prevention, Anti-Domestic Violence, therapeutic, and other frameworks to inform their work with youth. Although they come from different backgrounds and work experiences; LYRIC practices youth development that is rooted in healthy boundaries, social justice, cultural awareness, and joy.

LYRIC serves more than 1,000 youth per a year, through their center at 127 Collingwood Street, located in the heart of The Castro. Their center is in desperate need of repairs and renovations to support their ongoing youth development work that support Bay Area youth. LYRIC is the leading provider of services for LGBTQQ+ and transgender/gender non-conforming (TGNC) youth in San Francisco. Of all LYRIC participants served in FY21, 88% were low-income, 52% had mental health needs, 43% reported histories of violence, 56% lived with disabilities, 37% were homeless/unstably housed, 27% had justice system histories, and 19% had been in foster care. LGBTQQ+ youth make up 46% of homeless youth (ages 11-24) in San Francisco.

The project will expand LYRIC's space on the property by 44%, increase accessibility, improve air filtration systems, enhance outdoor space, and add more group program and counseling rooms. Their renovation will enhance and add a combined total of 2,645 square footage to the ground floor. Expansion is being driven by the needs of LYRIC programs and LYRIC's continuum of direct services. In the past three years alone, LYRIC's programs have nearly tripled. LYRIC needs a renovated space that fosters connection to each other and the LGBTQQ+ community.



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Thank you for your consideration of our request and long-time support for LGBTQQ+ youth.

Karen Boyce, LCSW
Director, Health Promotion & Wellness
San Francisco State University



April 29, 2022

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House H-232, U.S. Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Madam Speaker,

I am writing to express my strong support for LYRIC: Center for LGBTQQ+ Youth Appropriations Community Project Request, "LGBTQQ+ Youth Center Renovation."

LYRIC: Center for LGBTQQ+ Youth was founded 1988 by a group of youth and community allies who came together to throw a dance for LGBTQQ+ youth at the Women's Building in The Mission of San Francisco, and today, is the second oldest LGBTQQ+ youth center in the United States.

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The project will expand LYRIC's space on the property by 44%, increase accessibility, improve air filtration systems, enhance outdoor space, and add more group program and counseling rooms. Their renovation will enhance and add a combined total of 2,645 square footage to the ground floor. Expansion is being driven by the needs of LYRIC programs and LYRIC's continuum of direct services. In the past three years alone, LYRIC's programs have nearly tripled. LYRIC needs a renovated space that fosters connection to each other and the LGBTQQ community.

Nationally, LGBTQQ youth are more likely than cisgender and heterosexual youth to experience homelessness (120% more likely), unstable housing/family rejection (67% of families make negative comments about LGBTQQ people) or live in foster care (30%). Now more than ever LGBTQQ+ youth need our support.

Thank you for your consideration of our request and long-time support for LGBTQQ+ youth.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lara Honey-Brooks', written in a cursive style.

Lara Honey-Brooks, Chief Program Officer

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California State Senate

SENATOR
SCOTT WIENER

威善高

ELEVENTH SENATE DISTRICT



ASSISTANT MAJORITY WHIP
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MENTAL HEALTH CAUCUS
CHAIR
COMMITTEES:
HOUSING
CHAIR
GOVERNANCE & FINANCE
HEALTH
JUDICIARY
PUBLIC SAFETY
LEGISLATIVE ETHICS
CHAIR
SELECT COMMITTEE ON
MENTAL HEALTH & ADDICTION
CHAIR

April 28, 2022

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives
H-232, US Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi,

I am writing to express my strong support for LYRIC: Center for LGBTQQ+ Youth's Appropriations Community Project Request, "LGBTQQ+ Youth Center Renovation." LYRIC's center was founded at 127 Collingwood Street, in the heart of the Castro, in 1988. Today, it is the second oldest LGBTQQ+ youth center in the United States. LYRIC uses a youth-adult partnership model that draws upon harm reduction, HIV prevention, anti-domestic violence, and other frameworks, and is rooted in healthy boundaries, social justice, cultural awareness, and joy.

In the past three years alone, LYRIC's programs have nearly tripled to serving more than 1,000 youth per year through the center. LYRIC needs a renovated and expanded space that fosters increased connection and helps the center serve more youth. The youth center project will expand LYRIC's space on the property by 44%, increase accessibility, improve air filtration systems, enhance outdoor space, and add more group program and counseling rooms. Their renovation will enhance and add a combined total of 2,645 square feet to the ground floor.

I fully support LYRIC's efforts to rehabilitate this historic site, which will expand their youth LGBTQQ+ service capacity, increase accessibility, and help them continue their important work that allows individuals of all income ranges, abilities, and racial and ethnic backgrounds to remain and thrive in San Francisco.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Scott Wiener".

Scott Wiener
Senator, 11th District