

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
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April 28, 2022

The Honorable Sanford Bishop Jr.
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural
Development, Food and Drug
Administration, and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Andy Harris
Acting Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural
Development, Food and Drug
Administration, and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Bishop and Acting Ranking Member Andy Harris:

As you begin crafting the fiscal year 2023 bill, I respectfully request that you give consideration to the following funding priority:

1. Provide a funding level of \$1,500,000 for the FIU Agricultural Community Center at the proposed University Farm site (Possum Trot farm) as a community project funding request. The intended recipient is Florida International University located 11200 SW 8 Street Miami, FL 33199. The project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because the funding would assist to provide weekly and bi-weekly workshops for prospective farmers, including veterans and urban youth, on a variety of agricultural topics. The center will also maintain an office and appropriate staff members at the Community Center to provide one-on-one advice to socially disadvantaged farmers who might need documentary assistance with filing a variety of applications for USDA FSA loans and NRCS grants, other state/county assistance programs, and help with developing business plans.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Carlos A. Gimenez
Member of Congress