

**STEVE CHABOT**  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS  
FIRST DISTRICT, OHIO

INCLUDES MOST OF HAMILTON COUNTY  
AND ALL OF WARREN COUNTY

DEAN OF THE OHIO  
REPUBLICAN DELEGATION



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

April 28, 2021

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Chairwoman  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human  
Services, Education, and Related Agencies  
House Appropriations Committee  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human  
Services, Education, and Related Agencies  
House Appropriations Committee  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Cole:

We write today in support of an important community project in the City of Cincinnati, which will stand to benefit much of Southwest Ohio. As you begin crafting the Fiscal Year 2022 appropriations legislation, please consider providing a \$6.3 million funding level for the expansion of the Center for Emergency Care (CEC) at UC Medical Center (UCMC) for mass casualty preparedness and response as a community project funding request. The intended recipient is UCMC, located at 234 Goodman Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, 45219. The project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it will bring increased capability and readiness to our region's only academic medical center and Level 1 Trauma Center.

UCMC opened in 1823 as the nation's first teaching hospital to provide care for elderly, indigent and orphaned individuals. Additionally, many UCMC physicians also serve as faculty physicians at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, which remains one of the top 50 medical schools in the country.

It is our understanding that UCMC seeks to build-out the critical care pavilion space within the CEC to accommodate an unpredictable mass arrival or a significant shift in demand for care. This funding will be used to convert the current critical care pavilion into a multi-purpose space that will include all necessary elements to rapidly turn that space into clinical care space.

**COMMITTEES:**

**SMALL BUSINESS**  
RANKING MEMBER

**FOREIGN AFFAIRS**  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON MIDDLE EAST,  
NORTH AFRICA, AND INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

**JUDICIARY**  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON CRIME, TERRORISM,  
AND HOMELAND SECURITY  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON COURTS, INTELLECTUAL  
PROPERTY, AND THE INTERNET

More specifically, this covered, enclosed, and medically outfitted space will be used for:

- **A mass casualty collection and triage space.** Currently, UCMC does not have a mass casualty collection and triage space. All current treatment spaces are at capacity, making rapid expansion to triage mass casualty events extremely difficult. UCMC foresees multiple mass casualty events over the lifetime of the new Emergency Department. Without additional readiness space, our region will be left unprepared.
- **Rapid care space expansion for a pandemic.** When the COVID-19 pandemic rapidly expanded, UCMC erected tents outside of the Emergency Department to accommodate the increased demand. Unfortunately, days after constructing the tents, severe weather destroyed the expanded space to intake COVID-19 patients. Additionally, the space provided by these tents did not have adequate medical gasses, electricity, heating, or internet technology capabilities to serve patients. Expanding the CEC with medical treatment in mind will ensure every patient receives adequate care.

As you continue to assess appropriations requests, we ask that you give every consideration to this community project which will be a valuable tool when the next unknown threat endangers our region. Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Sincerely,



Steve Chabot (OH-01)  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



Brad R. Wenstrup, D.P.M. (OH-02)  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS