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Congressman Chuy Garcia Secures \$500,000 in Government Funds to Invest in the Families of Brighton Park

Gads Hill Center to Utilize these Funds to Expand Youth Programs in Brighton Park

CHICAGO – In a significant boost to community and youth programs in Brighton Park, U.S. Representative Chuy Garcia has successfully obtained \$500,000 in federal funding from the House Appropriations Committee. This subsidy is earmarked for the expansion of Gads Hill Center's Brighton Park location, a project that promises to support education and care programs for children, families, and youth across Chicago's Southwest Side.

"I am incredibly pleased to have secured \$12,216,031 in Community Project Funding to address pressing needs in our district," Congressman García said. "I am proud to have delivered investments that will make our community healthier, safer, and stronger."

The \$500,000 secured for Gads Hill Center will go toward the new construction of the second floor of the child development center at 4255 S. Archer Avenue, a project estimated to cost \$1.5 million. The expansion aims to create a youth center to offer workforce development, college preparation, and a safe environment for youth.

Gads Hill Center CEO, Maricela Garcia, expressed gratitude for the congressional support:

"This funding marks a pivotal step towards realizing our vision for a comprehensive, family services space that meets the diverse needs of our working families. Children and youth can count on a safe, nurturing, and enriching environment to reach their full potential. Thanks to the funding secured by Congressman Garcia, Gads Hill Center will be able to support more children and families with our crucial education and childcare programming."

The project also anticipates a further \$500,000 grant from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, with the remainder to be raised through private donations. This expansion will enable Gads Hill Center to offer increased support and services in the southwest neighborhoods of Chicago, reinforcing its commitment to fostering safe and productive environments for community engagement and youth development.

Founded in 1898, Gads Hill Center pursues its mission to transform families through education by offering innovative, bilingual, and culturally competent children and youth programs and mental health services on Chicago's South and Southwest Sides.

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