

June 30, 2023

Supervisor Connie Chan  
Chair of the Committee on Budget & Appropriations  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, City Hall, Room 244  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Supervisor Chan,

On behalf of North East Medical Services (NEMS), I support the inclusion of \$876,400 for an Urban Rest and Sleep Center (URSC) in the City's 2023-24 Budget. NEMS offers comprehensive health care services to over 68,000 patients, a majority of whom are uninsured, low-income, and prefer to be served in a language other than English. We operate 21 service delivery sites in San Francisco, Daly City, and San Jose, including one in the Tenderloin district located at 650 Polk Street.

The Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing's Home the Bay 2023-2028 Five-Year Strategic Plan highlights the need to expand services and resources for the City's unhoused population. The work done at URSC would support and complement the City's goals and could alleviate some of the strain on city resources. Additionally, URSC aims to assist residents who were recently displaced and need support during this difficult transition. A recent study published by UCSF found that fewer than half of survey participants had received any formal assistance, such as social or housing services, to re-enter housing during their first episode of homelessness. Providing these crucial services would help individuals stabilize their lives and prevent them from experiencing chronic homelessness. I believe URSC would play a pivotal role in providing these much-needed services to the newly unhoused and provide them with the tools and resources they need to get back on their feet.

As a community health center with a clinic in the Tenderloin, we believe that a URSC would help combat homelessness and provide a safe and comfortable place for homeless individuals to sleep, shower, eat, and access support services. For these reasons, we support funding in the City's 2023-24 Budget to help establish an Urban Rest and Sleep Center (URSC) in the Tenderloin.

Thank you for your consideration in advance.

Sincerely,



Paul Fox, Chief Administrative Officer  
North East Medical Services (NEMS)

Cc: Supervisor Mandelman, Member of the Budget and Appropriations Committee  
Supervisor Safai, Member of the Budget and Appropriations Committee  
Supervisor Ronen, Member of the Budget and Appropriations Committee  
Supervisor Walton, Member of the Budget and Appropriations Committee

January 23, 2024

Jaeda Johnson  
2550 Turk Blvd,  
San Francisco, CA, 94118

Dear Supervisors,

I am writing to support the Urban Rest and Sleep Center (URSC) project. I, Jaeda Johnson, was an intern with the Filipino Community Development Corporation for nine months. During my time there, I was able to be a part of the URSC project and see its details. I saw how much care, detail, and research was put into developing the project. I know the people and organizations' determination and commitment to this project. There are so many people who want to see this project happen and so many who would benefit from it. The URSC project would help people transition out of homelessness, focusing on getting them back up on their feet. It acts not only to counteract but also to prevent people from being unhoused long-term. URSC is not a shelter; it serves a purpose to aid during the day as we no longer have the drop-in centers we used to have in this city. Drop-in centers are crucial to help those in dire need and those unsure where to go—assisting in the safety of the people in our City.

I fully support the URSC project and urge that it be given the chance to become a reality. I encourage you to consider keeping this project one of the many you support. For the benefit of the people and the city. Not just in the short term but also for years to come.

Sincerely,

**Jaeda Johnson**

(510) 963-9756

jaedajohnson1968@gmail.com

Student at the University of San Francisco



January 23, 2024

TO: Budget and Finance Committee  
Board of Supervisors  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlet Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102

**LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE**  
**Urban Rest and Sleep Center (URSC) / Homeless Center**

This letter is written to offer support for the above-referenced program.

**PROGRAM DESCRIPTION and DESIGN**

The **Urban Rest and Sleep Center (URSC) / Homeless Center** will be located at 420 Turk Street in the Tenderloin District of San Francisco, California. The building rental terms are five (5) years, with the building owner renovating the space for URSC. We are partnering with Build, Inc., which will pay for the rent for three years. Partnerships with the URSC Community Collaborative and the Filipino Service Providers Network (FSPN) will allow the URSC to provide the services to our clients. The five service areas include the following:

1. Social services support program/individualized case management
2. Hygiene program (access to toilet, shower, and laundry)
3. Independent living program (skill training and job readiness program)
4. Health program (referrals to physical and behavioral health providers)
5. Safe sleeping place program

The Filipino Community Development Corporation (FCDC) will provide staffing, operations, and other resources like mobile beds, laundry, toilets, showers, and programming. Three laundry machines and dryers, toiletries, bath and laundry soap,

and a hygiene kit will be free for clients/unhoused individuals coming to the center. There will be three shower rooms and three toilets for people to use.

**URSC / Homeless Center** is a 24-hour center looking to accommodate 60 multi-ethnic individuals, predominantly serving the BIPOC homeless individuals daily during the daytime and 20 beds at night. Or an average of 200 - 300 clients weekly and about 800 - 1,000 clients monthly or 12,000 clients yearly. Younger adults ranging from 18 to 50 years old will be the primary target age population, with the capacity to extend services to the senior population. The ultimate goal of the **URSC / Homeless Center** is to offer an integrated and comprehensive program for newly unhoused individuals to get back on their feet.

The Filipino Service Providers Network is a consortium of 60+ agencies comprised of social service, health education, private caregiving and nursing services, public sector and county services such as SF Behavioral Health Services, Northeast Medical Services, UCSF, Institute on Aging, Felton Institute, Episcopal Community Services-Canon Kip Senior Center, Pilipino Senior Resource Center HICAP, Mabuhay Health Center, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS), South of Market Community Action Network (SOMCAN), Soma Pilipinas, to name a few.

As a consortium, we fully support funding the **Urban Rest and Sleep Center (URSC) / Homeless Center**, as it provides a cost-effective, innovative, and sustainable alternative solution to the growing problem of homelessness in San Francisco. There are models in other cities - that have proven effective in pre-empting chronic homelessness.

We strongly encourage your office to provide the necessary and promised funding for the **Urban Rest and Sleep Center (URSC) / Homeless Center**.

Respectfully Submitted on behalf of the Filipino Service Providers Network (FSPN),

Anne R. Almendral, LCSW  
Co-founder, FSPN  
415.350-5180  
[angelinaalmendral@gmail.com](mailto:angelinaalmendral@gmail.com)

Lolita C. Kintanar, MSW  
Co-founder, FSPN  
415.342.7009  
[lolitamahal@aol.com](mailto:lolitamahal@aol.com)

Milfe Ramos, Ed.D  
Co-founder, FSPN  
415.583.5638  
[milfe.ramos@sfgov.org](mailto:milfe.ramos@sfgov.org)

Ma. Teresa Tan  
Co-founder, FSPN  
415.497.2711  
[mtan@ecs-sf.org](mailto:mtan@ecs-sf.org)

**From:** [Crystal Van](#)  
**To:** [Jalipa Brent \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Nicholas Gee](#); [Annette Wong](#); [Shuangyan Li](#)  
**Subject:** [File No. 231270] Submitting Written Public Comment for Budget & Finance Committee Hearing on January 24, 2024  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 24, 2024 4:41:12 PM

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This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hi Brent,

I am submitting a written public comment on behalf of the Immigrant Parent Voting Collaborative for today's Budget & Finance Committee Hearing referencing File No. 231270 or [Appropriation Reserve - Various Departments' Budget Appropriations on Reserve - \$48,403,840 - FY2023-2024].

Please see below the Chinese statement (including English translation) from Yong Yu Lei of Chinese for Affirmative Action, a member organization of the Immigrant Parent Voting Collaborative:

大家好!我叫阿瑜,我来自台山的移民家庭,是三位孩子的妈妈。我在三藩市工作和生活,也是三藩市非公民家长投票联盟的积极成员。削减城市拨款直接影响到我们移民社区。希望市长支持我们的家庭和社区,不要削减地区居民的基本服务。

我有个孩子学校平时2:05分钟放学,星期三又提前放学,我的工作是在2:00还未下班。市长削减托儿和课后服务,对我的家庭影响非常大。到时因为需要照顾孩子而舍弃工作或者另外付出一笔大费用来照顾孩子。这个是我的家庭情况,也身边好多家长都会遇到这种情况。

目前的经济尚未从疫情前恢复,我们的城市必须维持支持劳动人民和弱势社区的基本服务,包括儿童服务、老年中心、青年计划、营养、可负担房屋、支持小企业等等。我们在三藩市生活和工作都需要基本的服务帮助我们小家,更好在这个城市安居乐业。

2023年市政府优先预备亚太经合会,花了很多资源侍奉国际的市民,已忽略本地社区的需求。我们呼吁市长优先支持地区的居民基本服务,不要削减。

Hello, everyone!

My name is Ah Yu. I immigrated from Taishan and am a mother of three children. I work and live in San Francisco, and actively participate in the Immigrant Parent Voting Collaborative. Cuts to the city's budget directly impacts our immigrant communities. Therefore, I implore the Mayor to support our families, and stop cutting crucial services for SF residents.

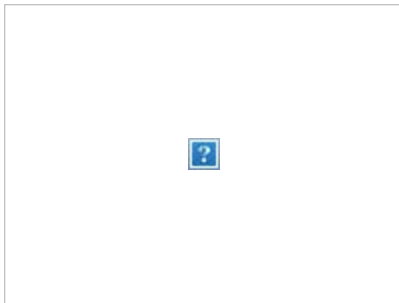
One of my children usually ends school at 2:05 pm, and ends even earlier on Wednesdays, but I don't get off work until after 2:00 p.m. The mayor's budget cuts on childcare and after-school programs significantly impacts my family. In order to care for my child, I might have to resign from my job that supports my family or pay an excessive amount of money for private childcare. My family challenges are not unique, many parents I know experience similar circumstances.

**Our current economy has not recovered from the pandemic, and our city must maintain essential services that support workers and vulnerable communities, including childcare, senior centers, youth programs, nutrition, affordable housing, support for small businesses, and more. Those residing and working in San Francisco seek crucial services to help maintain our basic needs and wellbeing.**

**In 2023, the city prioritized preparations for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) and spent excessive resources serving the international community, while neglecting the needs of many local residents. We loudly urge the Mayor to stop cutting essential services for the SF community.**

Warmest,  
Crystal

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**Crystal Van | 文思**

**Chinese for Affirmative Action**

**Civic Engagement Program Manager**

华人权益促进会 | 社区参与项目经理

she/her/她 | (415) 738-3354

[cvan@caasf.org](mailto:cvan@caasf.org)

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**From:** [Shuangyan Li](#)  
**To:** [Jalipa Brent \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Nicholas Gee](#); [Crystal Van](#)  
**Subject:** [File No. 231270] Submitting Written Public Comment for Budget & Finance Committee Hearing on January 24, 2024  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 24, 2024 4:00:45 PM

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Hi Brent,

I am submitting a written public comment on behalf of the Immigrant Parent Voting Collaborative for today's Budget & Finance Committee Hearing referencing File No. 231270 or [Appropriation Reserve - Various Departments' Budget Appropriations on Reserve - \$48,403,840 - FY2023-2024].

Please see the following statements in both Chinese and English from a community member:

尊敬的预算与财务委员会:

感谢您为我们提供了表达的机会。

我叫Christina,是一位单亲妈妈,我有一个9岁的女儿正在三藩市联合校区读小学。我们都是移民家庭。

每位家長不論你是非公民及公民都希望能够为孩子们的需求和需要而发声。只是通过非公民家长投票,移民家庭才能直接为我们的孩子争取合理的学习权利和支援。我们移民家长都是通过社区机构做的宣传,才知道此投票权。华促会也提供全面服务协调家长参与投票及孩子的教育,包括举办校区委员会论坛和选民咨询讲座,另家长能选出一致的委员为孩子争取公平教育。

最近大家都有目共睹,现在学校的措施还是不够完善。社区和学校发生的暴力问题,伤人的案件,以及孩子的心理健康都需要有个更完善的防备及反应措施,而不是不了了之。关于校园问题,社区机构包括非公民家长联盟经常会积极跟进后续情况和后期的倡议工作,让相关的部门负责。家长们对孩子的教育和期望是非常重视,希望各位市参市能够继续保留非公民家长投票外展的拨款,提升家长对孩子教育的认识及参与。家长的心声就是孩子的希望。谢谢!

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*Dear Budget & Finance Committee,*

*Thank you for providing the opportunity to hear the priorities of the community.*

*My name is Christina, and I am a single mother with a 9-year-old daughter who is attending elementary school at San Francisco Unified School District. We are an immigrant family.*

*Every parent, whether a non-citizen or a citizen, wants to advocate for the needs of our*

*children. However, It is only through non-citizen parent voting that immigrant families can directly fight for conducive learning opportunities and services unique for our children. We immigrant parents were informed about this right to vote through outreach from our community organizations including CAA. Throughout the years, CAA continues to provide comprehensive services to support non-citizen parents' to participate in voting and in our children's education, by holding Board of Education candidate forms and voter rights seminars, so that parents can elect commissioners to fight for an equitable education for our children.*

*Recently, parents are more concerned about the school's safety measures. We have seen heightened violence in the community, and in schools, where students are wounded. We need to ensure that there's better preventative and response measures from departments to address our children's mental health and wellbeing, rather than sweeping things under the rug. Community organizations including the immigrant voting parent collaborative have consistently followed up on rapid responses and advocacy work in our education system, holding departments accountable. Parents highly value and care about our children's education and wellbeing; I strongly urge the city to continue funding for non-citizen parent voting outreach and education, so that more parents can understand and participate in children's education. The voice of parents is the hope of children.*

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**Shuangyan Li**

**Chinese for Affirmative Action**

**Advocacy Coordinator**

华人权益促进会 | 倡导协调员

she/her/她 | (415) 274-6750

[shuangyan@caasf.org](mailto:shuangyan@caasf.org)



**From:** [Nicholas Gee](#)  
**To:** [Jalipa Brent \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Crystal Van](#); [Annette Wong](#)  
**Subject:** Submitting Written Public Comment for Budget & Finance Committee Hearing on January 24, 2024 File No. 231270  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 24, 2024 3:50:28 PM

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Hi Brent,

I am submitting a written public comment on behalf of the Immigrant Parent Voting Collaborative for today's Budget & Finance Committee Hearing referencing File No. 231270 or [Appropriation Reserve - Various Departments' Budget Appropriations on Reserve - \$48,403,840 - FY2023-2024].

Please see the following statements from Nick Gee and Crystal Van of Chinese for Affirmative Action, a member organization of the Immigrant Parent Voting Collaborative:

*Dear Budget & Finance Committee,*

*Thank you for providing the opportunity to hear the priorities of the community.*

*My name is Nick Gee. I'm an advocate with Chinese for Affirmative Action, and we are a member organization of the Immigrant Parent Voting Collaborative - a group of eight community based organizations from immigrant rights, education equity, and civic engagement backgrounds. Since 2017, we have expanded the civic participation and leadership of immigrant parents.*

*Our work promotes voter education and outreach to remove barriers and provide opportunities for voting empowerment so immigrant parents may vocalize the needs of their children and be represented in local school districts.*

*This City is leading the way for the movement of immigrant voting, and partnering with directly impacted communities is complicated due to their prior experiences with disenfranchisement where voting access may have been limited, lack of knowledge on voting rights, and time constraints that caregivers can also be essential workers. We have to continue providing community support so people know their rights and build political power.*

*The proposed mid-year cut to our contract is half of our entire budget. This is disheartening to the communities we serve, and urge you to advocate for us so immigrant parents can play a significant role in shaping their child's education and actively participate in*

democracy. Thank you.

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*Dear Budget & Finance Committee,*

*My name is Crystal Van. I'm a community organizer with Chinese for Affirmative Action, a member organization of the Immigrant Parent Voting Collaborative.*

*We create and support the City's efforts to strengthen a multi-racial democracy and engage immigrant parents in voter empowerment. If budget cuts are made to our program, the state of immigrant voting is at risk. Hiroshi Motomura, Professor of law at the University of California, Los Angeles states, "Immigrant voting actively fosters the inclusion of immigrants in the society."*

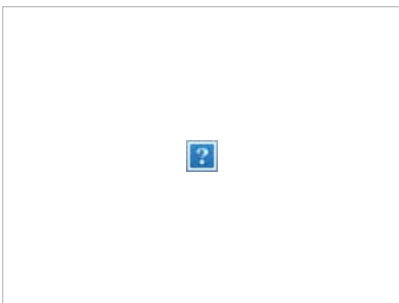
*Our work holds this vision and is ongoing and year round, even in non-election years, to provide direct resources and community empowerment to ensure parents have the resources to build political power. We strive to remove civic participation barriers and host outreach programs to empower and equip immigrant communities to take action.*

*"Immigrant voting means we affirm immigrant voices which affect [local] decisions on the school board that can improve learning conditions for their children, which in turn can provide benefits for families and the city at large."*

*Our Collaborative has moved in solidarity to make the City of San Francisco a more equitable and just place to live, and we know that starts with voting. We urge you to support the Immigrant Parent Voting Collaborative, and ensure that San Francisco remains a leader in immigrant rights and immigrant inclusion across the nation. Thank you.*

Thank you so much for submitting these statements on our behalf. If you have any questions please let me know.

Best,  
Nick Gee



**Nicholas Gee** (he/him)  
**Chinese for Affirmative Action**  
**Advocacy Manager**  
(415) 738-3363  
[ngee@caasf.org](mailto:ngee@caasf.org)

**From:** [Calder Lorenz](#)  
**To:** [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Chan, Connie \(BOS\)](#); [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Budget & Finance Committee: Public Comment: Item #13  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 24, 2024 7:23:41 AM  
**Attachments:** [Artboard 1.png](#)

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This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Supervisors,

My name is Calder Lorenz, I live and work in the Mission District, and I am the Director of Operations for The Gubbio Project. The Gubbio Project is also a member of HESPA and we are writing to urge you not to balance the budget on the backs of our kids and working families! We understand that this will be a tough budget year but the current proposed budget slashes critical community programs that ensure our working families have jobs and incomes, our youth have support services, and our communities of color can thrive.

Two important HESPA priorities on the list of cuts are food security for TAY (\$200K) and adult workforce "earn n learn" (\$400K). The SF City budget deficit is projected to be \$1.3B and the combined \$600K in HESPA cuts won't make any impact on the deficit but will mean more unstably housed TAY won't have enough nutritious food and unhoused/unstably housed adult job seekers will have less options for living wage job training and opportunities.

Please ensure this vital funding for transitional aged youth and families and the adult workforce are not cut out of the budget! As we enter 2024, we also need to ensure there are no cuts to critical city services, no layoffs of public employees, no cuts to in-language and culturally appropriate essential services for those who need it the most. We know what keeps us safe: living in communities where people of every color and background have fair wages, great schools, and affordable healthcare, where we address problems with proven solutions like social support services for both our housed and unhoused community.

The Gubbio Project's mission is to be in community with and to provide a sacred space and sanctuary for unhoused people in need of safe, compassionate respite during the day. Our program is housed at St. John's in the Mission and currently provides critical services to 100 individuals daily through a highly unique and successful model that combines social justice, peer support, and harm reduction. The Gubbio Project calls for a more just, compassionate and non-punitive approach by policymakers in the context of an equity driven, community driven budget process.

In Community,

Calder

--

Calder Lorenz (he/him), *Harm Reduction Saves Lives, I carry naloxone!*  
Director of Operations at the Gubbio Project

(415)-571-6391 cell phone  
[calder@thegubbioproject.org](mailto:calder@thegubbioproject.org)  
[thegubbioproject.org](http://thegubbioproject.org)

Providing Sacred Sleep at St. John's in the Mission, San Francisco