

KIRSTEN GILLIBRAND

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# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3205

May 11, 2016

The Honorable Julián Castro  
Secretary of Housing & Urban Development  
U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development  
451 7<sup>th</sup> Street S.W.  
Washington, DC 20410

Dear Secretary Castro,

I write in support of the City of Albany's Housing and Community Development Agency's (ACDA) application for funding from the Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Program through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. This funding will allow the City of Albany to continue its Lead Hazard Reduction Program by producing 150 affordable, lead safe units for low-income residents in the City.

As a recipient of lead hazard reduction funds since 1997, the City of Albany has made significant progress in establishing a productive Lead Based Paint Hazard Reduction Program. Since August 1997, ACDA has completed lead reduction in over 1,900 units throughout the City. The success of the previous grants was achieved by ACDA's cooperative efforts with the New York State Department of Health and the Albany County Health Department.

The City of Albany's Community Development Agency will administer the requested grant in collaboration with several community agencies. ACDA will collaborate with partners to conduct risk assessments to identify homes that are in need of lead reduction. Further, they will work with the New York State Health Department (NYSDOH) to continue blood level screening, testing of children, lead awareness efforts, and to make referrals to the Agency for Lead and Rehabilitation assistance. ACDA's environmental staff will conduct outreach to at least 300 Albany residents in neighborhoods that are targeted to be at the highest risk of lead poisoning in the City. The Albany Community Development Agency will also collaborate with Capital District Habitat for Humanity, the Albany Community Land Trust, and the Affordable Housing Partnership to provide lead safe homes for City of Albany residents. Additional weatherization opportunities provided by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Albany County and Albany Community Action Partnership will be offered to all income qualified units.

I ask that you please give this application your full consideration. If you have any questions, or desire further information, please do not hesitate to contact my staff member Laura Driscoll at (202) 224-4451.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kirsten Gillibrand". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kirsten Gillibrand  
United States Senator