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Hello Pls find attached my letter in support of Ackerman Center for Autism in Las Ve-



August 11, 2022

To: The State of Nevada Interim Finance Committee

Re: Public Comment for August 17th Meeting on Agenda Item E-25

Good morning, Chair Denis, Vice - Chair Carlton and fellow Committee Members,

I, Nudrat R Nauman, am writing to express support in favor of the Grant A Gift Autism Foundation-Ackerman Center's (GGAF Ackerman Center) ARPA request to fund an in increase the availability of diagnostic and therapeutic provider services for families effected by a neurodevelopmental disability. As a role practicing in 2939 Lake East Drive Las Vegas NV 89117, who refers patients to FFAF Ackerman Center, I can attest to the positive impact this proposal will have on families in my community living with autism and other neurodevelopmental conditions.

As the only multidisciplinary center in Southern Nevada that specializes in diagnosing and providing therapy to children and young adults with neurodevelopmental disorders, the GGAF Ackerman Center team play a critical role in the medical community. The incidence rate of an autism diagnosis continues to increase year after year, but due to staff capacity and lack of providers, the ability to meet this need is falling further behind. The average wait time for a new patient to receive a medical or neuropsychological evaluation can range from 9 to 18 months, most often during critical developmental time.

These funds will ensure families in Nevada are no longer left waiting several months to years to be diagnosed and once diagnosed, that they will have access to the services they need to reach their full potential.

Thank you for your consideration.

Nudrat K. Nauman MD

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