

John Galusha, Chairman  
Arica Andreatta, Commissioner  
Karl Sporleder, Commissioner



**Board of County Commissioners**

March 26, 2024

Lola Spradley  
Chair of the Board  
Huerfano County Economic Development  
P.O. Box 308  
Walsenburg, CO 81089

RE: Letter of Support for HCED FY25 Congressionally Directed Spending Request

Dear U.S. Senators Michael Bennet & John Hickenlooper,

We write in firm support of Huerfano County Economic Development's (HCED) FY25 CDS request for the Huerfano County Incubator and Makerspace Project. These funds would enable HCED to purchase the building they currently rent, as well as a connecting building for expansion, and create a sustainable, resilient hub for business growth and development in our county even after the EDA grant expires. The overall impact for our community cannot be understated, as generating successful small businesses will fill vacant storefronts, create jobs, and increase the County's tax base.

Expanding the facility allows more businesses to participate in the program, increasing revenues, and creating efficiencies for staff that save on labor costs. Additionally, the Makerspace element will be able to house larger equipment that Incubator participants can use in the creation of their products. Furthermore, this will repurpose and revitalize existing buildings in Walsenburg's downtown area and reduce costs when compared to new construction. We believe that utilizing taxpayer funds in this manner provides a strong return on investment while minimizing fiscal outlay, and creates a scenario where citizens can receive business development and product creation support and help reinvigorate the County's economy. We thank you for your public service and your consideration.

Sincerely,  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF HUERFANO COUNTY, COLORADO

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John Galusha, Chairman

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Arica Andreatta, Commissioner

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Karl Sporleder, Commissioner