

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC**

**Statement by**  
**The Honorable Jeff Denham**  
**Before the**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Extension of Remarks**  
**On**  
**September 25, 2018**

My, Speaker, I rise today to honor the 20-year anniversary of the Hoops For Youth Foundation and their achievements in helping and supporting at-risk kids in Washington, D.C.

Since 1999, the Hoops for Youth Foundation has brought together lawmakers congressional staff, community leaders, and the lobbying profession in a bi-partisan effort to help give children in our Nation's Capital a fighting chance with educational, family, hope, and career opportunities through countless hours of community service.

Mr. Speaker, the Hoops for Youth Foundation dedicates its support organizations like Healthy Babies, Inc, a Washington, DC based non-profit, which supports at-risk families have healthy babies and move out of the cycle of poverty. Healthy Babies reaches out to high-risk, low-income, substance-abusing, pregnant and parenting women, men, and their families. It removes barriers for health and success by helping clients identify what they need. Healthy Babies works with service provider partners to connect women and families to resources including health care, housing, nutrition, mental health services, educational support, skills building, substance abuse support, and employment. They stay with families long-term to give them the best chance for success.

The Foundation also supports important schools like The Cornerstone School of Washington, DC, which provides a Christ-centered, nurturing, and academically rigorous education to the children of Washington, D.C.; and St. Anthony's, which continues to be a family and neighborhood tradition. The curriculum and environment at St. Anthony is based upon the Gospel and the teachings of Jesus Christ as understood by the Catholic Church. They are proud to offer a rigorous, standards-based academic program to students in Pre-K3 through grade eight;

Finally, the Foundation dedicates its support to Washington Jesuit Academy, which provides a high quality and comprehensive education to boys from low-income communities, offering them a safe, rigorous academic setting and advancing their spiritual, intellectual, emotional and physical growth. The guiding vision of the Washington Jesuit Academy is to create an education model that addresses the cycle of poverty that plagues our students' communities, and replaces it with a cycle of hope, determination and success. In order to challenge the city's widening achievement gap and bleak graduation statistics for low-income males, WJA incorporates the

Magis ("the more") and asks the important question: What more can we do for our students, our families and our community to change the face of urban education?

Mr. Speaker, the commitment and achievements over the past 20-years of the Hoops For Youth Foundation, members of Congress, congressional staff, community leaders, and the professional lobbying community, should be recognized, for their incredible dedication to ensuring at-risk kids in our Nation's Capital have the opportunities to become the next generation of leader's.

We must also recognize those efforts to promote strong family values and commitment to success by programs like Healthy Babies, St. Anthony's, Cornerstone School of Washington, DC and the Washington Jesuit Academy.

Sincerely,



Jeff Denham  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS