

# CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION (CDC) COALITION

C/o American Public Health Association (202) 777-2514 [www.cdccoalition.org](http://www.cdccoalition.org)

March 27, 2014

The Honorable Tom Harkin  
Chairman  
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee  
on Labor, HHS and Education  
131 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jerry Moran  
Ranking Member  
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee  
on Labor, HHS and Education  
131 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jack Kingston  
Chairman  
House Appropriations Subcommittee  
on Labor, HHS and Education  
2358B Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Subcommittee  
on Labor, HHS and Education  
2358B Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Harkin and Kingston and Ranking Members Moran and DeLauro:

The undersigned members of the CDC Coalition urge you to provide **\$7.8 billion for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's programs** in the FY 2015 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations bill. Unfortunately, President Obama's FY 2015 budget request for CDC represents a nearly \$243 million reduction when compared with FY 2014 and CDC's budget authority in the president's proposal is lower than FY 2003 levels. While we appreciate some of the targeted increases in the president's budget, other important CDC programs would face level funding or significant reductions. We believe that Congress should prioritize funding for all of the activities and programs supported by CDC that are essential to protect the health of the American people.

The CDC Coalition is a nonpartisan coalition of organizations committed to strengthening our nation's public health infrastructure and prevention programs. Our mission is to ensure that health promotion and disease prevention are given top priority in federal funding, to support a funding level for CDC that enables it to carry out its prevention mission and to assure an adequate translation of new research into effective state and local programs. Coalition member groups represent millions of public health workers, researchers, clinicians, educators, and citizens served by CDC programs.

CDC is faced with unprecedented challenges and responsibilities ranging from emergency preparedness, chronic disease prevention, to combating the tobacco and obesity epidemics. CDC funds programs in injury control and violence prevention; health promotion in schools and workplaces; governmental and community initiatives to prevent diabetes, heart disease, stroke, cancer, lung disease and other chronic diseases; improvements in nutrition and immunization; programs to monitor and protect against environmental threats; improving oral health; preventing infant mortality and birth defects; initiatives to improve the health and wellbeing of persons with

disabilities; preventing antimicrobial resistance and infectious diseases; and public health research and health statistics. It is notable that more than 70 percent of CDC's budget supports public health and prevention activities by state and local health organizations and agencies, national public health partners and academic institutions.

CDC serves as the command center for our nation's public health defense system against emerging and reemerging infectious diseases. From pandemic flu preparedness and prevention activities to West Nile, smallpox and SARS detection, CDC is the nation's – and the world's – expert resource and response center, coordinating communications and action and serving as the laboratory reference center. States and communities rely on CDC for accurate information and direction in a crisis or outbreak.

In addition to ensuring a strong public health system and protecting Americans from public health threats and emergencies, CDC programs are crucial to reducing health care costs and improving the public's health. Despite the progress CDC has made to meet these challenges, the agency has been woefully underfunded to confront the myriad public health issues facing the country and keeping current austerity measures in place poses a serious threat to the viability of critical CDC programs. We urge you to support all of CDC's programs and provide a funding level of \$7.8 billion in FY 2015.

Please contact Don Hoppert at [donald.hoppert@apha.org](mailto:donald.hoppert@apha.org) or 202-777-2514 with any questions regarding our request.

Sincerely,

AcademyHealth  
AIDS United  
American Society for Clinical Pathology  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
American Association for Dental Research  
American Association of Colleges of Nursing  
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy  
American Association on Health and Disability  
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network  
American College of Clinical Pharmacy  
American College of Preventive Medicine  
American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
American Dental Association  
American Dental Hygienists' Association  
American Diabetes Association  
American Epilepsy Society  
American Heart Association  
American Lung Association  
American Physical Therapy Association  
American Psychological Association  
American Public Health Association  
American Thoracic Society  
American Trauma Society

Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology  
Association of Environmental Health Academic Programs  
Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs  
Association of Public Health Laboratories  
Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health  
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials  
Campaign for Public Health Foundation  
C-Change  
Center for Science in the Public Interest  
Children's Environmental Health Network  
Coalition for Health Funding  
Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service, Inc. (COA)  
Consortium of Social Science Associations  
Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists  
Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America  
Digestive Disease National Coalition  
Epilepsy Foundation  
Friends of NCHS  
Futures Without Violence  
GBS/CIDP Foundation International  
Green & Healthy Homes Initiative  
Healthy Teen Network  
HIV Medicine Association  
Infectious Diseases Society of America  
Interstitial Cystitis Association  
March of Dimes  
Mesothelioma Applied Research Foundation  
NAPHSIS  
National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors  
National Alopecia Areata Foundation  
National Association of Chronic Disease Directors (NACDD)  
National Association of County and City Health Officials  
National Black Nurses Association  
National Center for Healthy Housing  
National Coalition of STD Directors  
National Family Planning & Reproductive Health Association  
National Recreation and Park Association  
National Violence Prevention Network  
Prevent Blindness  
Public Health Institute  
Pulmonary Hypertension Association  
Research!America  
Safe States Alliance  
Scleroderma Foundation  
Sexuality Information and Education Council of the U.S. (SIECUS)  
Sleep Research Society  
Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America  
Society for Public Health Education

The AIDS Institute  
The Arc  
The Marfan Foundation  
Trust for America's Health  
WomenHeart: The National Coalition for Women with Heart Disease  
YMCA of the USA

Cc: House Appropriations Committee  
Senate Appropriations Committee