

**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 23, 2015

The Honorable Roy Blunt  
Chairman  
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee  
on Labor, Health and Human Services,  
Education and Related Agencies  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray  
Ranking Member  
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee  
on Labor, Health and Human Services,  
Education and Related Agencies  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
House Appropriations Subcommittee  
on Labor, Health and Human Services,  
Education and Related Agencies  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Subcommittee  
on Labor, Health and Human Services,  
Education and Related Agencies  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Blunt and Cole and Ranking Members Murray 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 2016 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations bill. We are pleased President Obama's FY 2016 budget request would increase CDC's program level by \$141 million over FY 2015. While this additional funding provides some resources for new and important initiatives and increased funding for some programs, other important programs would be cut or are completely eliminated under the president's request. 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 for injury control and violence prevention; global health security; health promotion in schools and workplaces; the prevention of diabetes, heart disease, stroke, cancer, lung disease and other chronic diseases; nutrition and physical activity; immunization; environmental health; oral health; preventing infant mortality and birth defects; preventing antimicrobial resistance; preventing prescription drug overdose 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 the nation's public health defense system against emerging and reemerging infectious diseases. From aiding in the prevention and control of Ebola in West Africa and detecting and responding to cases in the U.S., to monitoring and investigating the ongoing multi-state measles outbreak to pandemic flu preparedness, 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, communities and the international community rely on CDC for accurate information and direction in a crisis or outbreak.

In addition to ensuring a strong public health infrastructure and protecting Americans from public health threats and emergencies, CDC programs are crucial to reducing health care costs and improving health. Despite the progress CDC has made to meet these needs, the agency's programs have been woefully underfunded to confront the myriad public health issues facing the nation. **We urge you to support a funding level of \$7.8 billion for CDC programs in FY 2016.**

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 Foundation of Chicago  
AIDS United  
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 Cardiology  
American College of Clinical Pharmacy  
American College of Preventive Medicine  
American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
American Diabetes Association  
American Heart Association  
American Lung Association  
American Psychological Association  
American Public Health Association  
American School Health Association  
American Sexual Health Association  
American Society for Clinical Pathology  
American Thoracic Society  
American Trauma Society  
Arthritis Foundation  
Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology  
Association of Environmental Health Academic Programs  
Association of Public Health Laboratories  
Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health  
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials

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  
Emergency Nurses Association  
Epilepsy Foundation  
Friends For Life  
Friends of NCHS  
Green & Healthy Homes Initiative  
HealthHIV  
Healthy Teen Network  
HIV Medicine Association  
HIV Prevention Justice Alliance  
IC&RC  
Infectious Diseases Society of America  
Lakeshore Foundation  
March of Dimes  
National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors  
National Association for Public Health Statistics and Information Systems (NAPHSIS)  
National Association of Chronic Disease Directors  
National Association of County and City Health Officials  
National Association of State EMS Officials  
National Black Nurses Association  
National Center for Healthy Housing  
National Coalition for LGBT Health  
National Coalition of STD Directors  
National Family Planning and Reproductive Health Association  
National Network of Public Health Institutes  
National Recreation and Park Association  
National Violence Prevention Network  
Prevent Blindness  
Public Health Institute  
Research!America  
Safe States Alliance  
Sexuality Information and Education Council of the U.S. (SIECUS)  
Society for Public Health Education  
The AIDS Institute  
The Arc  
The Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America  
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