March 1, 2021

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

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

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

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

Dear Chairwomen DeLauro and Murray and Ranking Members Cole and Blunt:

The undersigned 193 members of the CDC Coalition and other supporting state and national organizations urge you to provide at least $10 billion for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s programs in the FY 2022 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations bill. We believe that Congress should prioritize funding for all of the activities and programs supported by CDC which are essential to protect the health of the American people. We are grateful for the important increases Congress provided for CDC programs in FY 2021 and for the emergency supplemental funding provided through CDC as we continue to battle the COVID-19 pandemic. At the same time, many CDC programs have not received the significant funding increases that are needed to address the many other health challenges we face as a nation.

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 ensure 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 serves as the command center for the nation’s public health defense system against emerging and reemerging infectious diseases as well as man-made and natural disasters. From playing a leading role in aiding in the surveillance, detection and mitigation of the COVID-19 pandemic in the U.S. and globally, to playing a lead role in the control of Ebola in West Africa and the Democratic Republic of the Congo to monitoring, investigating and helping to control the recent measles outbreaks in the U.S., 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 international partners
rely on CDC accurate information, direction and resources to ensure they continue to be prepared for and able to respond to and recover from a crisis or outbreak. States, communities and international partners rely on CDC for accurate information, direction and resources to ensure they continue to be prepared for and able to respond to and recover from a crisis or outbreak.

In addition to playing a leading role in protecting the public’s health from COVID-19, CDC is faced with many other unprecedented challenges and responsibilities ranging from chronic disease prevention to combating the opioid, tobacco, e-cigarette use and obesity epidemics to emergency preparedness. CDC funds programs for injury control; research into gun 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; tobacco prevention and control; nutrition and physical activity; immunizations; HIV, STI and hepatitis prevention; prevention of vector-borne diseases; environmental health, including the prevention of childhood lead poisoning and protecting the public from the health impacts of climate change; oral health; reducing health disparities; preventing infant mortality and birth defects; sickle cell disease data collection; preventing antimicrobial resistance; preventing prescription drug overdose; improving the health and quality of life of individuals with disabilities; Alzheimer’s disease prevention and awareness; vision and eye health and public health research and health statistics. It is notable that more than 70% of CDC’s budget supports public health and prevention activities through state and local health organizations and agencies, national public health partners and academic institutions.

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. We urge you to support a funding level of at least $10 billion for CDC’s programs in FY 2022.

Please contact Don Hoppert at donald.hoppert@apha.org or 202-777-2514 with any questions regarding our request.

Sincerely,

Advocates for Better Children’s Diets
Allergy & Asthma Network
American Academy of Family Physicians
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Anthropological Association
American Association for Clinical Chemistry
American Association for Dental Research
American Association of Colleges of Nursing
American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
American Association of Neuromuscular & Electrodiagnostic Medicine
American Association on Health and Disability
American Brain Coalition
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN)
American College of Clinical Pharmacy
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists
Crohn's & Colitis Foundation
CURE Epilepsy
Delaware Academy of Medicine / Delaware Public Health Association
Digestive Disease National Coalition
Dravet Syndrome Foundation
Dup15q Alliance
Dystonia Advocacy Network
Dystonia Medical Research Foundation
Endocrine Society
Entomological Society of America
Epilepsy Foundation
Epilepsy Leadership Council
Fight Colorectal Cancer
Florida Public Health Association
GBS|CIDP Foundation International
GLMA: Health Professionals Advancing LGBTQ Equality
GO2 Foundation for Lung Cancer
Good Days
Green & Healthy Homes Initiative
Hawaii Public Health Association
Hepatitis B Foundation
HIV Medicine Association
HIV+Hepatitis Policy Institute
Hope for HIE
Illinois Public Health Association
Illinois Society for the Prevention of Blindness
Indiana Public Health Association
Infectious Diseases Society of America
International Certification & Reciprocity Consortium
International Cystitis Association
International Foundation for CDKL5 Research
International Foundation for Gastrointestinal Disorders
Kansas Public Health Association
Lakeshore Foundation
Lennox-Gastaut Syndrome (LGS) Foundation
Louisiana Public Health Association
Lymphatic Education & Research Network
Maine Public Health Association
March of Dimes
Medical Library Association
Medical Society Consortium on Climate and Health
Minnesota Public Health Association
Mississippi Public Health Association
Missouri Public Health Association
Montana Public Health Association
NAPHSIS
NASTAD
National Alliance for Caregiving
National Alopecia Areata Foundation
National Association of Chronic Disease Directors
National Association of County and City Health Officials
National Association of Epilepsy Centers
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National Association of State Emergency Medical Services Officials
National Black Nurses Association
National Environmental Health Association
National Equality Action Team (NEAT)
National Family Planning & Reproductive Health Association
National Fragile X Foundation
National Hemophilia Foundation
National Hispanic Medical Association
National League for Nursing
National Network of Public Health Institutes
National Pancreas Foundation
National Safety Council
NC Public Health Association
NephCure Kidney International
Nevada Public Health Association
New Hampshire Public Health Association
New Jersey Public Health Association
New Mexico Public Health Association
New York State Public Health Association
North Dakota Public Health Association
Ohio Public Health Association
Oregon Public Health Association
Patient Services, Inc.
Pennsylvania Public Health Association
Pennsylvania Society of Gastroenterology
Phelan-McDermid Syndrome Foundation
Planned Parenthood Federation of America
Population Association of America
Prevent Blindness
Prevent Blindness Georgia
Prevent Blindness North Carolina
Prevent Blindness Wisconsin
Prevent Blindness, Ohio Affiliate
Prevention Institute
Project Sleep
Public Health Association of Nebraska
Public Health Foundation
Public Health Institute
Pulmonary Hypertension Association
Rare Epilepsy Network (REN)
Research!America
Restless Legs Syndrome Foundation
Rhode Island Public Health Association
Safe States Alliance
Scleroderma Foundation
SHAPE America - Society of Health and Physical Educators
SLC6A1 Connect
Sleep Research Society
Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine
Spina Bifida Association
STXBP1 Foundation
Susan G. Komen
SynGAP Research Fund
Tennessee Public Health Association
The AIDS Institute
The Gerontological Society of America
The Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America
The Society for Public Health Education
The Trevor Project
Tourette Association of America
Trust for America's Health
Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance
U.S. Hereditary Angioedema Association
United for Charitable Assistance
United Ostomy Associations of America
US Hereditary Angioedema Association
Utah Public Health Association
Vermont Public Health Association
Washington State Public Health Association
Whitman-Walker Institute
Wisconsin Public Health Association
Wishes for Elliott/DEE-P Connections
Wyoming Public Health Association
YMCA of the USA

Cc: The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
    The Honorable Charles Schumer
    The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
    The Honorable Mitch McConnell
    The Honorable Patrick Leahy
    The Honorable Richard Shelby
    The Honorable Kay Granger