





April , 2024

Dear Chair Murray, Chair XXXX, Vice Chair Collins, and Ranking Member DeLauro:

The \_\_\_\_ undersigned organizations—representing the full range of stakeholders supporting the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services (HHS), and Education and Related Agencies appropriations bill—thank you for your leadership in supporting families and communities. We urge you to build on the previous fiscal year (FY) investment of \$226.8 billion by increasing the FY 2025 allocation for the Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee to a level that ensures robust and sustained investments so that these programs can meet vital needs. Given the funding cuts sustained in this bill for FY 2024, we call on you to ensure that the tight non-defense discretionary (NDD) cap for FY 2025 does not result in additional cuts to funding for the necessary services and programs this subcommittee oversees, and that funding is found to respond to increased urgent needs. We also urge you to seek funding outside the cap where needed to meet needs responsibly.

The programs and services funded by the Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee have a profound impact on health and well-being, child development, educational and skills attainment, and productivity. Yet these programs have been shortchanged in the appropriations process since spending caps were first enacted in 2011 and yet again under the cap for FY 2024. We strongly recommend an allocation that addresses the gaps created from years of underfunding these essential programs. The need for these key investments has only grown over time, leaving important services and activities underfunded by billions of dollars as program funding for vital services funded under Labor-HHS-Education has not kept pace with population growth or inflation. Any additional cuts to FY 2025 NDD funding and to this bill specifically will further undermine the future strength, economic vitality, and security of our nation.

We need sustained annual increases across the Labor-HHS-Education programs to address long-standing needs, and these increases cannot come at the expense of other programs within the bill or other NDD programs. The programs in the Labor-HHS-Education bill strengthen the nation by improving Americans' lives and meeting basic needs for a broad range of constituencies. The effects of chronic underfunding have impacted programs that support education, public health, health research, workforce development, and social services. The effects include:

- Eroding the public health and research infrastructure and workforce, limiting our ability to address disease prevention, respond to future health crises, and monitor ongoing health trends for new and emerging threats.
- Hindering efforts to address learning loss and opportunity gaps worsened by the pandemic, to raise student achievement, to address shortages in the education workforce, and to increase high school graduation rates, college affordability, and college completion.
- Leaving far too many low-income children without access to high quality preschool and other early learning opportunities.
- Providing childcare to only one in nine eligible children under age 6, with childcare providers
  paid so little that one in four early childhood educators take second jobs to make ends meet.
- Limiting workers' access to skills development and education opportunities necessary to access in-demand careers for which employers are currently hiring—a key contributing factor for why the nation's labor force participation rate remains low at a time when there are nearly two available jobs for every unemployed person.







- Preventing almost one million people from accessing the critical workforce and job training services that Congress overwhelmingly authorized in 2014. The U.S. invests less than every other industrialized country in active labor market policy, except for Mexico and Chile, and would need to invest \$80 billion annually just to reach the median of our international peers.
- Ignoring the needs of individuals who find themselves without a high school credential and who need a pathway back to education, employment, and full participation in their communities.
- Providing inadequate resources to mitigate the worsening substance use disorder crisis in communities throughout the country.
- While Congress started to reverse long-term Maternal and Child Health Block Grant funding losses in FY 2023, in FY 2024 funding was cut, bringing funding to more than 10 percent below the levels in FY 2010 when taking inflation into account.
- Failing to keep pace with growing child welfare needs, especially as communities grapple with
  the destructive impact of substance use disorders on families. Child Welfare Services funding,
  for example, was flat-funded again in FY 2024, leaving it more than <u>27 percent</u> below the FY
  2010 level, adjusted for inflation.
- The average cost of home heating has increased 24.5% since the start of the pandemic, and the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), the federal program to help with residential energy costs, only has enough funding to serve 1 in 6 eligible households. Congress provided \$2 billion in supplemental funding in FY23 to help families pay for the rising cost of energy, helping 7.2 million households access energy assistance. This winter, costs have not come down, but the supplemental funding has not been renewed and base funding for FY 2024 was increased by only \$25 million.

We urge you to commit to improving the lives of Americans by boosting the allocation for the Labor-HHS-Education bill for FY 2025 to provide needed services for the American public while ensuring continued support for NDD programs. If you have questions about this letter, please contact:

- Sarah Abernathy, Committee for Education Funding (<u>abernathy@cef.org</u>);
- Erin Will Morton, Coalition for Health Funding (emorton@dc-crd.com);
- Steve Voytek, Campaign to Invest in America's Workforce (Steve.Voytek@flpadvisors.com); or
- Meredith Dodson, Coalition on Human Needs (<u>mdodson@chn.org</u>).

## Sincerely,

(Signers as of 4/26)

(ICAN) Increasing Capabilities Access Network
9/11 Day
AACTE: American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education
Academy for Radiology & Biomedical Imaging Research
Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
AcademyHealth
Access Technologies,Inc. / Oregon Statewide AT Program
ACOSA
ADAP Advocacy







Advance CTE

Advocates for Children of New York

**AFSCME LOCAL1659** 

AFT

Afterschool Alliance

**AIDS United** 

AIHA

Alabama CASE

All4Fd

Allergy & Asthma Network

Alliance for a Just Society

Alliance for Adult Education Foundation

America Forward

American Academy of HIV Medicine

American Academy of Neurology

American Alliance of Museums

American Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research

American Association of Colleges of Nursing

American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine

American Association of Neuromuscular & Electrodiagnostic Medicine

American Atheists

American Brain Coalition

American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN)

American College of Clinical Pharmacy

American College of Neuropsychopharmacology

American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists

American College of Physicians

American College of Radiology

American Council on Education

American Epilepsy Society

American Federation of School Administrators

American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees

(AFSCME)

**American Geriatrics Society** 

American Heart Association

American Indian Higher Education Consortium

American Library Association

American Liver Foundation

American Lung Association

American Music Therapy Association

**American Nurses Association** 

American Occupational Therapy Association

American Physiological Society







American Psychological Association Services

American Public Health Association

American Samoa Alliance against Domestic & Sexual Violence

American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy

American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics

(ASPET)

American Society for Reproductiv

American Society of Hematology

American Society of Nephrology

American Society of Pediatric Nephrology

American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene

American Society on Aging

American Statistical Association

AMORC

Anxiety and Depression Association of America

APPRENTICESHIP CONSULTING SERVICES LLC

Arbor Research Collaborative for Health

Arise for Social Justice

Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence

Arizona Council of Administrators for Arizona (AZCASE)

**Arthritis Foundation** 

Ascentria Care Alliance

Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence

Assistive Technology of Ohio

Association for Career and Technical Education

Association for Diagnostics and Laboratory Medicine

Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology

Association for Research in Vision & Ophthalmology

Association for Special Children and Families

Association of American Cancer Institutes

Association of American Universities

Association of Assistive Technology Act Program

Association of Community College Trustees

Association of Diabetes Care & Education Specialists

Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs (AFOP)

Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities

Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents

Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs

Association of People Supporting Employment First (APSE)

Association of Public and Land-grant Universities

Association of Public Data Users

Association of Public Health Laboratories

Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO)







Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health

Association of State and Territorial Health Officials

ASTOP, Inc. Sexual Abuse Center

**Autism Society of America** 

Autistic Self Advocacy Network

**BeLEAF Survivors** 

**Benedict Center** 

Big Cities Health Coalition

**Biophysical Society** 

Brightpoint

**Browning Public School District #9** 

Buen Vecino

CACNA1A Foundation

CADASIL Association Inc.

CAEL (Council for Adult and Experiential Learning)

California Academy of Sciences

California Alliance of Child and Family Services

California Center for Rural Policy

California Foundation for Independent Living Centers

Californians for Disability Rights Inc

Campaign for New York Health

**CAP Tulsa** 

Capitol Advisors Group, LLC

Cardio Facio Cutaneous syndrome International (CFC)

Caring Ambassadors Program

**Caring Across Generations** 

**CARITAS** 

Celiac Disease Foundation

Center for Employment Training

Center for Law and Social Policy

Center for Popular Democracy

Central Iowa Workforce Development Board

Centro de Servicios Para Campesinos

Chiefs for Change

Child Welfare League of America

Childhood Obesity Initiative

Children Now

Children's HealthWatch

Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation

Church Women United of Columbus & Franklin County Ohio

Church World Service

Cia Siab, Inc.

Cindy Smith







Clover

**CMCCAA Head Start Program** 

Coalition for Community Schools

Coalition on Adult Basic Education (COABE)

Coalition on Human Needs

coasap

Code.org

CoGenerate

Collaborative for Academic, Social and Emotional Learning (CASEL)

Color of GI Illnesses

Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault

Colorado Youth Corps Association

**Commercial Vehicle Training Association** 

Committee for Children

Committee for Education Funding (CEF)

Common Good Iowa

Common Sense Media

**Community Access National Network** 

Community Action of Orleans and Genesee

Community Action Partnership of Lake County

**Community Bridges** 

**Community Servings** 

Compass Affordable Housing

COMPOSTPYLONAMERICA

Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, U.S.

**Provinces** 

CoSN â€" Consortium for School Networking

Council for Exceptional Children

Council for Opportunity in Education (COE)

Council of Administrators of Special Education

Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists Foundation

Council on Social Work Education

Council on Undergraduate Research

Courage California

Cross Excavation & Auger

CSNK2A1 Foundation

**CURE Epilepsy** 

CureSHANK

DakotaLink

Danny Did Foundation

DC Action

**Disability Law Center** 

Disability Law Center of Alaska







disAbility Law Center of Virginia

Disability Rights Arizona formerly Arizona Center for Disability Law

**Disability Rights Arkansas** 

Disability Rights Florida

Disability Rights Iowa

Disability Rights Maryland

Disability Rights Michigan

Disability Rights MS

Disability Rights Nebraska

Disability Rights New Jersey

Disability Rights North Carolina

Disability Rights Oregon

Disability Rights Pennsylvania

Disability Rights South Carolina

Disability Rights South Dakota

Disability Rights TN

**Disability Rights Wisconsin** 

Dup15q Alliance

Early Care & Education Pathways to Success (ECEPTS)

Early Childhood Quality Council

Eastern Connecticut Workforce Investment Board

Easterseals

**EBQ Consulting LLC** 

**EDGE Consulting Partners** 

**Education Reform Now** 

**Educators for Excellence** 

Embrace Services, Inc.

Employment & Employer Services (E&ES)

**Empower Missouri** 

**Endocrine Society** 

**Entomological Society of America** 

Epilepsies Action Network (EAN)

**Epilepsy Alliance America** 

**Epilepsy Foundation** 

**Epilepsy Leadership Council** 

Epitome of Epilepsy

Esperanza United

Famicos Foundation

Family & Children's Place

Family Advocates

Family Centered Treatment Foundation

Family Voices NJ

FARE (Food Allergy Research and Education)







**Fast-Track Cities Institute** 

Federation of American Hospitals

Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences

Fellowship Baptist Church

First Congregational UCC

First Focus Campaign for Children

First Ward CDC

Florida Legal Services, Inc.

Florida Policy Institute

Food Bank Northern Nevada

Food Research & Action Center (FRAC)

FoodCorps

Forbes Field Associates

Forest Park District 91

Forum for Youth Investment

Foster Care to Success

Foundation for Healthy Generations

Franklin Primary Health Center

Friends Committee on National Legislation

Friends, Inc.

Full Plates Full Potential

Georgia Alliance to End Homelessness

Georgia-CASE

**Gesher Human Services** 

**GLSEN** 

Good Days

Goodwill Industries International, Inc.

GRACE/End Child Poverty California

Green & Healthy Homes Initiative

**GRIN2B Foundation** 

HAVEN

Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice

Hawaii Children's Action Network Speaks!

Head Start CFDP, Inc.

Health Care for America Now (HCAN)

**Health Care Voices** 

**Healthy Teen Network** 

HealthyWomen

Heart Failure Society of America

Hereditary Angioedema Association (HAEA)

**HIGH IMPACT Mission-Based Consulting and Training** 

**HIMSS** 

Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities







**Hispanic Federation** 

HIV + Hepatitis Policy Institute

**HIV Medicine Association** 

Hope For Hypothalamic Hamartomas

Hunger Free America - Idaho

Hunger Free America Inc.

Hunger Free Nyc.Org

IC&RC

iFoster

Illinois Action for Children

Illinois Alliance of Administrators of Special Education

Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault

Illinois Collaboration on Youth

Illinois Hunger Coalition

**Immanuel Community Services** 

Impact Fund

Indiana Council of Administrators of Special Education

Indivisible Marin

Indivisible Media City Burbank

Infectious Diseases Society of America

Institute for Higher Education Policy (IHEP)

International Nutritional Sustainability Partners

Islamic Relief USA

Jewish Family Service of Colorado

Jewish Family Services, Inc.

Jewish Women International

JFF

Just Harvest

JustLeadership USA

Ka Poe o Kakaako Inc

Kansas Association of Special Education Administrators

Kentucky Association of Sexual Assault Programs

Kentucky Voices for Health

Khmer Health Advocates Inc.

Kids Above All

Knowledge Alliance

Knowledgepanel

Koolen-de Vries Syndrome Foundation

Lake Region Special Education

Lakeshore Foundation

Latinos for Education

LEARN Regional Educational Service Center

**Learning Forward** 







## Legal Momentum

Lennox-Gastaut Syndrome (LGS) Foundation

Little Listeners of the Carolina's

Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)

Long Beach Gray Panthers

Lupus and Allied Diseases Association, Inc.

Lupus Foundation of America

Maine Center for Economic Policy

Maryland Assistive Technology Program

Maternal and Child Health Access

Maternal Mental Health Leadership Alliance

Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Meet the Need NC

**MENTOR** 

Methodist Action Program

Metro New York Health Care for All

MICAH- Metropolitan Interfaith Council on Affordable Housing

Michigan Nonprofit Association

Michigan Works! Association

Midwest Urban Strategies, Inc.

Minnesota Administrators for Special Education

Minnesota Association of School Administrators

Minnesota Budget Project

Minnetonka Public Schools

Mississippi Center for Justice

Missouri Council of Administrators of Special Education

MMLA/MDLC

Mohawk Valley Community Action Agency, Inc.

MomsRising

Monsoon Asians & Pacific Islanders in Solidarity

Montana Conservation Corps

Montana Council of Administrators of Special Education

Mosquito and Vector Control Association of California

Move To Amend

Muscular Dystrophy Association

Music Will

**NAFIS** 

NASTAD

National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd

National Afterschool Association

National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research

National Alliance for Public Charter Schools

National Alliance to End Sexual Violence







National AmeriCorps Seniors Association

National Association for Music Education

National Association of Counsel for Children

National Association of County and City Health Officials

National Association of Elementary School Principals

National Association of ESEA State Program Administrators

National Association of Graduate and Professional Students

National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities

National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners

**National Association of Regional Councils** 

**National Association of RSVP Directors** 

National Association of School Psychologists

National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP)

National Association of Social Workers

National Association of State Directors of Special Education

National Association of Workforce Boards

**National Center for Families Learning** 

National Center for Learning Disabilities

National Center on Domestic Violence, Trauma and Mental Health

National Coalition of Health Education Organizations

**National Coalition of STD Directors** 

**National Community Action Partnership** 

National Council for Community and Education Partnerships

National Council of Jewish Women

National Council of Teachers of Mathematics

National Council on Aging

**National Disability Institute** 

National Disability Rights Network (NDRN)

National Education Association (NEA)

National Employment Law Project

National Forum for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention

**National Head Start Association** 

National Health Care for the Homeless Council

National Health Law Program

National Immigration Law Center

National Job Corps Association

National Network of Public Health Institutes

National Network to End Domestic Violence

National Organization of API Ending Sexual Violence

**National Parents Union** 

National Partnership for Women & Families

**National Rural Education Association** 

National Rural Health Association







**National Safety Council** 

**National Science Teaching Association** 

**National Skills Coalition** 

National Summer Learning Association (NSLA)

National Urban League

National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable (NVHR)

**National Youth Employment Coalition** 

Natural Science Collections Alliance

NAWDP

Neighbor to family, INC

Neighborhood Improvement Association

Network Lobby for Catholic Social Justice

Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies

**Nevada Association of School Superintendents** 

Nevada Public Health Association

**New Beginnings** 

**New Beginnings APFV** 

New Jersey Association of School Adminisitrators

New Mexico Voices for Children

NJPHA

North Carolina Association of Workforce Development Boards

(NCAWDB)

North Dakota Assistive

North Dakota Protection & Advocacy Project

Northeast Iowa Workforce Development Board

Northeast Regional Center for Excellence in Vector-Borne Diseases

**Northwest Oregon Works** 

NY StateWide Senior Action Council

NYCASE

NYU Langone HEalth

Oacac Headstart

Office of the Rev. Dr. Chuck Currie

Ohio Alliance To End Sexual Violence

Ohio Association of Foodbanks

Ohio Association of Pupil Services Administratorsistrators

Ohio Domestic Violence Network

Oklahoma Directors of Special Services

Oregon Workforce Partnership

Organizations Concerned About Rural Education

Our Children Oregon

Our Piece of the Pie, Inc.

Owatonna Public Schools

P.O.S.T







## Pa Council of Administrators of Special Education

PA Education Association

**Paraquad** 

Parent as Teachers

Parents as Teachers

Partner4Work

Partners for Rural Impact

People Power United

**Placer Independent Resource Services** 

Platelet Disorder Support Association

Population Association of America

Poverty Project at the Institute for Policy Studies

PPP3CA Hope Foundation

PrEP4AII

**Prevent Blindness** 

Prevention Institute

Private citizen

Pro-Choice North Carolina

**Progressive Policy Institute** 

**Project HOPE** 

**Project Hope of Gunnison Valley** 

**Project Sleep** 

Protect All Children's Environment

Public Advocacy for Kids (PAK)

Public Allies, Inc.

**Public Citizen** 

Public Health Institute

**Public Justice Center** 

Rape Crisis Center Inc

Rebuild America's Schools

Results for America

Retired

Rhode Island Association for the Education of Young Children (RIAEYC)

Ring14 USA

Rise Up WV

RiverStone Health

**ROC** United

**RocACTS Religious Leaders caucus** 

**Rockford Housing Authority** 

Rsearch!America

Rural Advocates For Independent Living, Inc.

Rural Schools Association of New York

S.W.A.A,







Safe States Alliance

Safer Foundation

SALUD-Multicultural Health Coalition of Storm Lake

San Diego for Every Child

San Diego Workforce Partnership

San Francisco AIDS Foundation

SBP

School Administrators of Montana

School Superintendents of Alabama

SchoolHouse Connection

SEMCA Michigan Work's

SER Metro-Detroit, Jobs for Progress, Inc.

Serve Washington

Service Employees International Union

SHINE Syndrome Foundation

SIECUS: Sex Ed for Social Change

Sisters of Charity of Nazareth Western Province Leadership

SkillSource

SLC6A1 Connect

Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America

Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine

Society for Neuroscience

Society for Public Health Education

Society for Women's Health Research

Society of Interventional Radiology

Society of Women Engineers

Southeast Michigan Community Alliance

Southeastern Center of Excellence in Vector-Borne Disease

Southwest Fair Housing Council

SPAN Parent Advocacy Network

State Higher Education Executive Officers Association

Stepping Stones, Inc.

Stop TB USA

Student Association for STEM Advocacy

Student Veterans of America

STXBP1 Foundation

Susan G. Komen

SynGAP Research Fund

TASH

**Tatton Brown Rahman Syndrome Community** 

**Teach For America** 

Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children

Texas Association Against Sexual Assault







The Advocacy Institute

The AIDS Institute

The Autistic People of Color Fund

The Center for Women and Families, Inc.

The Consortium of Social Science Associations

The Corps Network

The Early Learning Center

the Educare Network

The Education Trust

The FamilieSCN2A Foundation

the Forum for Youth Investment

The Massachusetts Administrators for Special Education (ASE)

The MED13L Foundation

The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research

The National Alliance to Advance Adolescent Health

The National Domestic Violence Hotline

The National Pancreas Foundation

The Rory Belle Foundation

The Society of Thoracic Surgeons

**TOOTRIS Child Care On-Demand** 

**Tourette Association of America** 

**Treatment Action Group** 

**Treatment Communities of America** 

Trust for America's Health

TSC Alliance

Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine

U.S. Pain Foundation

UC Davis Clinical and Translational Science Center

**UNIDOS** 

Union for Reform Judaism

**United Church of Christ** 

**United States Workforce Associations** 

United Way of King County

University of California System

University of Minnesota

**Urban Strategies Council** 

**USAging** 

**Utahns Against Hunger** 

Vaccinate Your Family

Virginia Community Rights Network

Vivent Health

Voices for National Service

Voices of Hope, Inc.







wAIHA Warriors

Waldo Housing Assistance Center

Washington CASE

Washington Defender Association

Washington State Community Action Partnership

Washington State Public Health Association

West Side Federation for Senior and Supportive Housing

When The Trumpet Sounds

Wind of the Spirit Immigrant Resource Center

Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault

Wisconsin Council for Administrators of Special Services

Women of Reform Judaism

WomenRising, Inc.

Workforce Development Board HMO & CDO, NY

Workforce Partnership

World Education, a division of JSI

YMCA of the USA

Young Women's Project

Youth and Women for Change in Eswatini

YouthBuild Gary

YouthBuild USA

YWCA Cambridge

YWCA Champaign County

YWCA of Lubbock

ZeroV