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KA Statement on the Cancellation of the Comprehensive Centers

Yesterday's announcement from the Department of Education that it has cancelled numerous grants that were supporting the Comprehensive Center (CC) program is the latest step in the rapid and incredibly harmful deconstruction of our nation's education research infrastructure.

CCs exist to respond to the needs of state and local education leaders, providing highimpact support to address their pressing educational challenges, and leveraging indepth knowledge, research, expertise and resources to improve student achievement. CCs are a key part of the system – along with Regional Education Laboratories (RELs) and dozens of other contracts administered through the Institute of Education Sciences (IES), which have also been cancelled over the past 10 days – that helps alleviate the burdens on local schools, districts, and states by researching and developing strategies to address pressing challenges in our education system, and then supporting their implementation at the local level. The cancellation of the CC grants creates yet another enormous gap that will put more pressure on state and local school leaders, local school budgets, families, and communities.

Knowledge Alliance remains deeply committed to addressing existing challenges and strengthening educational research in the U.S. – but we can and must do so without halting existing state and local supports that empower students to learn, teachers to teach, and families to thrive.