

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION (CDC) COALITION

c/o American Public Health Association 800 I Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20001 (202) 777-2514

April 4, 2011

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

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

The Honorable Dennis Rehberg
Chairman
House Appropriations Subcommittee
on Labor, HHS and Education
2358 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

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

Dear Chairman Harkin, Chairman Rehberg, Ranking Member Shelby, and Ranking Member DeLauro:

The undersigned members of the CDC Coalition urge you to provide at least **\$7.7 billion for the Centers for Disease Control's (CDC) FY 2012 "core programs"** as you move forward with your work on the FY 2012 Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill. Our request reflects the minimal amount CDC will need to fulfill its core missions for fiscal year 2012. We strongly believe that the activities and programs supported by CDC are essential to protect the health of the American people.

The CDC Coalition is a nonpartisan coalition of more than 100 groups committed to strengthening our nation's 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 bioterrorism preparedness, chronic disease prevention, eliminating health disparities, combating the tobacco and obesity epidemics to helping the nation prepare for the health impacts of climate change. In addition, CDC funds community programs in injury control and violence prevention; health promotion efforts in communities including schools and workplaces; initiatives to prevent heart and lung disease, cancer, diabetes, stroke, arthritis and other chronic diseases; improvements in nutrition and immunization; programs to monitor and combat environmental effects on health; interventions to improve oral and vision health; prevention of birth defects; initiatives for children and adults with disabilities; public health research; strategies to prevent antimicrobial resistance and infectious diseases; and data collection and analysis on a host of vital statistics and other health indicators.

It is notable that more than 70 percent of CDC's budget supports state and local health organizations, agencies 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 virus to smallpox to SARS, the 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. CDC's leadership is especially critical in its efforts to provide support and guidance to state and local health departments as well as the public in response to emerging public health threats and emergencies.

In addition to playing a key role in maintaining a strong public health infrastructure and protecting Americans from public health threats and emergencies, the CDC Coalition believes that CDC programs play a crucial role in reducing healthcare costs and strengthening the nation's health system. We are grateful for your support in the past and **urge you to support a funding level of \$7.7 billion for CDC's "core programs" in fiscal year 2012.**

Sincerely,

AIDS Foundation of Chicago
AIDS United
Adult Congenital Heart Association
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases
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 Dietetic Association
American Heart Association
American Lung Association
American Medical Student Association
American Physical Therapy Association
American Podiatric Medical Association
American Psychological Association
American Public Health Association
American School Health Association
American Society for Clinical Pathology
American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy
American Society for Microbiology
American Society for Reproductive Medicine
American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene
American Thoracic Society
Amputee Coalition
Arthritis Foundation
Association for Prevention Teaching and Research
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 State & Territorial Dental Directors
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials
Campaign for Public Health
Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids
Center for Science in the Public Interest
Children's Environmental Health Network
Coalition for Health Services Research
Coalition for Health Funding
Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service, Inc.
CommonHealth ACTION
Consortium of Social Science Associations
Cooley's Anemia Foundation
Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists
Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America
Digestive Disease National Coalition
Emergency Nurses Association
Family Violence Prevention Fund
Friends of NCHS
Hepatitis Foundation International
HIV Medicine Association
HIV Prevention Justice Alliance
Infectious Diseases Society of America
Institute for Public Health Innovation
International Foundation for Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders
Interstitial Cystitis Association
Jeffrey Modell Foundation
Latino Coalition for a Healthy California
March of Dimes Foundation
Mesothelioma Applied Research Foundation
National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors
National Association for Sport and Physical Education
National Association of Chronic Disease Directors
National Association of County and City Health Officials
National Association of Local Boards of Health
National Black Nurses Association
National Blood Clot Alliance
National Center for Healthy Housing
National Coalition of STD Directors
National Coalition to End Childhood Lead Poisoning
National Green and Healthy Homes Initiative
National Health Care for the Homeless Council
National Marfan Foundation
National Minority AIDS Council
National Network of Public Health Institutes
National Recreation and Park Association
National Family Planning & Reproductive Health Association
National WIC Association
Partnership for Prevention

Prevent Blindness America
Pulmonary Hypertension Association
Research!America
Scleroderma Foundation
Sexuality Information and Education Council of the U.S.
Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America
Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine
TASH
The AIDS Institute
Trust for America's Health
Urban Coalition for HIV/AIDS Prevention Services
U.S. Hereditary Angioedema Association
WomenHeart: The National Coalition for Women with Heart Disease
YMCA of the USA

Cc: House Appropriations Committee
Senate Appropriations Committee