

May 6, 2024

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

The 698 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 (<u>emorton@dc-crd.com</u>);
- Steve Voytek, Campaign to Invest in America's Workforce (<u>Steve.Voytek@flpadvisors.com</u>); or
- Meredith Dodson, Coalition on Human Needs (mdodson@chn.org).

## Sincerely,

(ICAN) Increasing Capabilities Access Network9/11 DayAACTE: American Association of Colleges for Teacher EducationAcademy 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 Alliance for Women, Infants, Children, Youth & Families **AIDS Foundation Chicago** AIDS United AIHA Alabama CASE Alaska Food Policy Council All4Ed Allergy & Asthma Network Alliance for a Just Society Alliance for Adult Education Foundation Alzheimer's Association/ Alzheimer's Impact Movement America Forward American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology American Academy of HIV Medicine American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine American Academy of Neurology American Academy of Pediatrics American Alliance of Museums American Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research American Association for Respiratory Care American Association of Colleges of Nursing American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine American Association of Community Colleges American Association of Neuromuscular & Electrodiagnostic Medicine American Association of Public Health Association American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) American Atheists American Brain Coalition American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) American Chiropractic Association 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 Educational Research Association American Epilepsy Society American Federation of School Administrators American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) American Foundation for Suicide Prevention American Geriatrics Society American Heart Association American Indian Higher Education Consortium American Kidney Fund American Library Association American Liver Foundation American Lung Association American Medical Informatics Association (AMIA) 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 School Counselor Association American Society for Clinical Pathology American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics (ASPET) American Society for Reproductive Medicine American Society of Anesthesiologists 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 Speech-Language-Hearing Association American Statistical Association American Thoracic Society AMORC Anxiety and Depression Association of America







APLA Health 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 Counseling and Referral Service Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence Asian Resources, Inc. Assistive Technology of Ohio Association for Career and Technical Education Association for Diagnostics and Laboratory Medicine Association for Prevention Teaching and Research 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 Medical Colleges Association of American Universities Association of Assistive Technology Act Program Association of Community College Trustees Association of Diabetes Care & Education Specialists Association of Educational Service Agencies Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs (AFOP) Association of Immunization Managers 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 Rehabilitation Nurses Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO) Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health Association of State and Territorial Health Officials Association to Benefit Children ASTOP, Inc. Sexual Abuse Center Autism Society of America







Autistic People of Color Fund Autistic Self Advocacy Network **Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law BeLEAF Survivors Benedict Center** Berrien RESA **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 Campaign to Invest in America's Workforce Candler County CAP Tulsa Capitol Advisors Group, LLC Cardio Facio Cutaneous syndrome International (CFC) **Caring Ambassadors Program Caring Across Generations** CARITAS Cedars-Sinai **Celiac Disease Foundation** Center for Employment Training Center for Housing & Health Center for Justice and Human Dignity Center for Law and Social Policy Center for Popular Democracy CenterLink: The Community of LGBTQ Centers 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 Environmental Health Network Children's HealthWatch Children's Trust Fund Alliance **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 for Health Funding Coalition on Human Needs** 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 **Common Threads Community Access Center Community Access National Network** Community Action of Orleans and Genesee Community Action Partnership of Lake County **Community Bridges** Community Resources for Independent Living **Community Servings Compass Affordable Housing** COMPOSTPYLONAMERICA Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, U.S. Provinces CoSN - Consortium for School Networking Council for Exceptional Children Council for Opportunity in Education Council for Opportunity in Education (COE)







Council of Administrators of Special Education Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists **Council on Social Work Education** Council on Undergraduate Research **Courage California Cross Excavation & Auger** CSNK2A1 Foundation CURE Epilepsy CureSHANK **Cystic Fibrosis Foundation** DakotaLink **Danny Did Foundation** DC Action Disability Law Center Disability Law Center (MA) 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 Divinity Health and Wellness** Division for Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children (DEC) Dream.org Dup15q Alliance Early Care & Education Pathways to Success (ECEPTS) Early Childhood Quality Council Eastern Connecticut Workforce Investment Board Easterseals

MERICA'S COALITION for WORKFORCE HEALTH FUNDING EDUCATION FUNDING





**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 Step Alliance First Ward CDC Five Horizons Health Services** Florida Legal Services, Inc. Florida Policy Institute Food Bank of 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







**FREE** Arizona FREED Center for Independent Living Friends Committee on National Legislation Friends, Inc. **Full Plates Full Potential Futures Without Violence** Gateway Rehab 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 **Hepatitis B Foundation** 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 Housing Opportunities of Fort Worth, Inc. Hunger Free America Hunger Free Nyc.Org Hydrocephalus Association IC&RC iFoster Inc. Illinois Action for Children







Illinois Alliance of Administrators of Special Education Illinois Child Care Bureau 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 International WELL Building Institute Iowa Citizen Action Network Islamic Relief USA Jewish Family Service of Colorado Jewish Family Services, Inc. Jewish Women International JFF Johnson Park Center (JPC) Just Future Project 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 **KIPP Public Schools 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







Life Unbolted Inc. Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) Long Beach Gray Panthers Lorain County Community Action Agency Lupus and Allied Diseases Association, Inc. Lupus Foundation of America Maine Center for Economic Policy Maine School Superintendents Association March of Dimes Mary House, Inc. 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 Metropolitan Interfaith Council on Affordable Housing 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 Minnesota Hospital Association Minnetonka Public Schools Mississippi Center for Justice Mississippi Early Learning Alliance 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 Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health 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 State Workforce Agencies National Association of Workforce Boards National Ataxia Foundation National Athletic Trainers' Association National Center for Families Learning National Center for Learning Disabilities National Center on Domestic Violence, Trauma and Mental Health National Coalition for LGBTQ Health National Coalition for Literacy 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 Churches National Council of Jewish Women National Council of Teachers of Mathematics National Council on Aging National Disability Institute







- National Disability Rights Network (NDRN)
- National Eczema Association
- National Education Association (NEA)
- National Employment Law Project
- National Energy Assistance Directors Association
- National Family Planning & Reproductive Health Association
- National Forum for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention
- National Head Start Association
- National Health Care for the Homeless Council
- National Health Law Program
- National HIV/AIDS Housing Coalition
- 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 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
- National Youth Justice Network
- National Youth Leadership Council
- 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 Administrators
- New Mexico Out-of-School Time network
- New Mexico Voices for Children







New York State Public Health Association NJCRI 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 Ohio Alliance To End Sexual Violence Ohio Association of Foodbanks Ohio Association of Pupil Services Administrators **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** Pa Council of Administrators of Special Education PA Education Association Paraguad Parents as Teachers Partner4Work Partners for Rural Impact Pennsylvania Head Start Association People Power United Planned Parenthood Federation of America Platelet Disorder Support Association Population Association of America Poverty Project at the Institute for Policy Studies **PPP3CA Hope Foundation** PrEP4All **Prevent Blindness Prevention Institute Pride Action Tank Pro-Choice North Carolina** 







**Progressive Policy Institute Project HOPE** Project Hope of Gunnison Valley **Project Sleep** Protect All Children's Environment Protect our stolen treasures Public Advocacy for Kids (PAK) Public Allies, Inc. **Public Citizen** Public Health Institute **Public Justice Center Rape Crisis Center Inc Rebuild America's Schools** REDF Reproductive Freedom for All (formerly NARAL Pro-Choice America) **RESULTS Columbus Results for America RESULTS Virginia** 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** Research!America Rural Advocates For Independent Living, Inc. **Rural Schools Association of New York** Ryan White Medical Providers Coalition S.W.A.A., Safe States Alliance SALUD-Multicultural Health Coalition of Storm Lake San Diego for Every Child San Diego Workforce Partnership San Francisco AIDS Foundation San Juan Center Inc. SBP School Administrators of Montana School Superintendents of Alabama School-Based Health Alliance SchoolHouse Connection







SEMCA Michigan Work's SER Metro-Detroit, Jobs for Progress, Inc. Serve Washington Service Employees International Union Service Year Alliance 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 Sojourners-SojoAction Southeast Michigan Community Alliance Southeastern Center of Excellence in Vector-Borne Disease Southwest Economic Solutions DBA MiSide Wealth 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 Sycamores 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 Arc of the United States 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 Gault Center 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 Porchlight Collective SAP The Rory Belle Foundation The Society of Thoracic Surgeons The Sturge-Weber Foundation **Thrive Alabama** Title IV-A Coalition **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. Breastfeeding Committee U.S. Pain Foundation** UC Davis Clinical and Translational Science Center UNIDOS (WI) UnidosUS Union for Reform Judaism United Church of Christ **United States Workforce Associations** United Way of King County University of California System University of Minnesota Upshur County Family Resource Network **Urban Strategies Council** USAging

MERICA'S COALITION for WORKFORCE HEALTH FUNDING EDUCATION FUNDING





Utahns Against Hunger Vaccinate Your Family Virginia Community Rights Network Vivent Health Voices for National Service Voices of Hope, Inc. Volunteers of America, Utah 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 Westchester Residential Opportunities, Inc. When The Trumpet Sounds Wind of the Spirit Immigrant Resource Center Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault Wisconsin Council for Administrators of Special Services Woman With A Plan Women of Reform Judaism WomenRising, Inc. Women's College Coalition 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 Youth First Justice Collaborative YouthBuild Gary YouthBuild USA YWCA Cambridge YWCA Champaign County YWCA of Lubbock YWCA San Gabriel Valley YWCA Yonkers ZeroV