





March 31, 2023

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

The 469 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 2024 allocation for the Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee to a level that ensures robust and sustained investments so that these programs can meet vital needs. Additionally, we call on you to ensure that non-defense discretionary (NDD) funding is not cut or capped in a manner that cuts spending in the FY 2024 appropriations process.

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 they have been shortchanged in the appropriations process since spending caps were enacted in 2011. We recommend an allocation that builds upon the FY 2023 investment to address 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. Any proposals to cut total FY 2024 funding or to cap NDD funding in a manner that cuts spending for FY2024 or future fiscal years will further undermine the future strength, economic development, and security of our nation.

While Congress enacted COVID-19 emergency funding to address urgent needs caused by the pandemic on a short-term basis, this pandemic supplemental funding does not replace the need for ongoing increases to base appropriations for services to fulfill the goals of the bill's programs. We need sustained annual increases across the Labor-HHS-Education programs to address long-standing needs that existed before the pandemic, 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, job training, and social services. The effects include:

- The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) finally grew in FY 2023, after having been cut 40.6 percent from FY 2010 to FY 2022, adjusted for inflation. Growth is essential, with average households expected to pay 12.7 percent more for heat this winter, and nearly 55 percent of people with household incomes of \$25,000 or less reporting they had to reduce or forego basic household expenses to pay their energy bills.
- 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 created by the pandemic, to raise student achievement, 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 child care to only one in nine eligible children under age 6, with child care providers paid so little that one in four early childhood educators take second jobs to make ends meet.
- Hindering workers' access to the skills, training, and education necessary to access the jobs for which employers are currently hiring.
- 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 starting to reverse Maternal and Child Health Block Grant funding losses, FY 2023 funding remains about 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 in FY 2023, leaving it more than <u>27 percent</u> below the FY 2010
 level, adjusted for inflation.

We urge you to commit to improving the lives of Americans by boosting the allocation for the Labor-HHS-Education bill for FY 2024 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);
- Megan Evans, Campaign to Invest in America's Workforce (<u>MeganE@nationalskillscoalition.org</u>);
 or
- Deborah Weinstein, Coalition on Human Needs (dweinstein@chn.org).

AACTE (American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education)

Academy for Radiology & Biomedical Imaging Research

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

Access Technologies, Inc. / Oregon Statewide Assistive Technology Program

Action on Smoking and Health

ADAP Advocacy Association

Addiction Connections Resource

Advance CTE

Advocates for Children of New York

African American Health Alliance







AFSCME

Afterschool Alliance

AIDS Action Baltimore

AIDS Alabama

AIDS Alliance for Women, Infants, Children, Youth & Families

AIDS Foundation Chicago

AIDS United

AJCU

Alabama Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Alaska Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

All Things Art, Inc.

All4Ed

Allergy & Asthma Network

Alliance for Retired Americans

Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments

Alzheimer's Association/ Alzheimer's Impact Movement

American Academy of Pediatrics

American Alliance of Museums

American Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research

American Association for Respiratory Care

American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases

American Association of Colleges of Nursing

American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM)

American Association of State Colleges and Universities

American Association of University Professors

American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges

American Brain Coalition

American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network

American College of Clinical Pharmacy







American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists

American College of Physicians

American College of Radiology

American Council on Education

American Dental Education Association

American Federation of School Administrators

American Federation of Teachers

American Friends Service Committee

American Geriatrics Society

American Library Association

American Lung Association

American Muslim Health Professionals

American Neurological Association

American Psychological Association Services, Inc.

American Public Health Association

American School Counselor Association

American School Health Association

American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics

American Society of Hematology

American Society of Nephrology

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association

American Statistical Association

American Thoracic Society

AMORC

APLA Health

Arizona Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Arizona Poor People's Campaign

Arizona WESTOP

Arkansas Association of Student Assistance Programs







Arkansas Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Arthritis Foundation

ASPIRE, Inc.

Association for Career and Technical Education

Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology

Association for Psychological Science

Association of American Cancer Institutes

Association of American Medical Colleges

Association of Community College Trustees

Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs (AFOP)

Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents [ALAS]

Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs

Association of Population Centers

Association of Public Health Laboratories

Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO)

Association of School Psychologists of Pennsylvania

Association of State and Territorial Health Officials

Association of the Clinicians for the Underserved (ACU)

Association of University Centers on Disabilities

Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses

Association to Benefit Children

Autism Society of America

Autistic People of Color Fund

Be Frank 4 Justice

Big Cities Health Coalition

Biophysical Society

Brain Aneurysm Foundation

Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation

California Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers







Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids

Caribbean Association of Educational Opportunity Programs

Caring Across Generations

Caring Ambassadors Program

CAST

Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)

CenterLink: The Community of LGBT Centers

Centro de Servicios Para Campesinos

Chapel of the Good Shepherd Episcopal Campus Ministry

Chicago Recovery Alliance

Chiefs for Change

Child Care Solutions, Inc.

Children's Advocacy Institute

Children's Defense Fund

Children's Home Society of America

Children's Trust Fund Alliance

Church World Service

City Year, Inc.

Climate Psychiatry Alliance

Coalition for Health Funding

Coalition for Juvenile Justice

Coalition on Human Needs

Coalition to Shelter and Support the Homeless

Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning

Colorado ASPIRE

Colorado Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Committee for Education Funding (CEF)

Community Access National Network

Community Action Partnership of North Central Missouri







Community Action Partnership of Sonoma County

Community Build, Inc.

Community Change Action

Community Servings

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

Connecticut Alliance of Foster and Adoptive Families

Connecticut Association for Education Opportunity Programs

Connecticut Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

CoSN

Council for a Strong America

Council For Opportunity in Education (COE)

Council of Administrators of Special Education

Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates

Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists

Council of the Great City Schools

Council on Undergraduate Research

Coyote RI

DC Metro Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Delaware Association of School Psychologists (DASP)

Delaware Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Detroit Champions for Hope

Disabled In Action of Metropolitan NY

Division for Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children (DEC)

Drug Policy Alliance

Early Care & Education Consortium

Early Care & Education Pathways to Success (ECEPTS)

Early Learning Essentials

Economic Policy Institute

EDGE Consulting Partners







Educare Learning Network

Education Reform Now

Educational Opportunity Association

Endocrine Society

Epilepsy Alliance America

Epilepsy Foundation

Esperanza United (formerly Casa de Esperanza: National Latin@ Network)

FASP

Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences

Fight Crime: Invest In Kids

Five Horizons Health Services

FL National Organization for Women

Florida Association of School Psychologists

Florida Center for Fiscal and Economic Policy

Florida Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Friends of the Institute of Education Sciences

Full Plates Full Potential

Futures Without Violence

GAWAND

Georgia Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Georgia TRIO

Goodwill Industries International

Great Lakes ADA of Michigan

Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank

Green Dot Public Schools National

Guam Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Hawaii Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Hawaii Children's Action Network Speaks!

Healthcare Alternative System







Healthy Teen Network

Hepatitis C Association

Higher Education Consortium for Special Education (HECSE)

HIMSS

Hispanic Association of Colleges & Universities (HACU)

Hispanic Federation

HIV Dental Alliance

HIV Medicine Association

Human Service Chamber of Franklin County

IC&RC

Idaho Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Illinois Alliance for Reentry and Justice

Illinois Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Illinois School Psychologist Association

Illinois Society for the Prevention of Blindness

Impact Fund

Indiana Association of School Psychologists

Indiana Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Infectious Diseases Society of America

Institute for Educational Leadership

Institute for Higher Education Policy (IHEP)

Integrated Community Solutions, Inc.

Iowa Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Iowa TRIO

Japanese American Citizens League

Jewish Family Service of Colorado

Jewish Women International

Johnson Park Center (JPC)

Kansas Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers







Kentucky Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Kids Above All

KIPP Foundation

Knowledge Alliance

Knowledgepanel

Lafayette Urban Ministry

Lakeshore Foundation

Latinos for Education

LDATX

LeadingAge

Learning Disabilities Assn. of Delaware

Learning Disabilities Association (LDA) of Michigan

Learning Disabilities Association of America

Learning Disabilities Association of Connecticut

Learning Disabilities Association of Wisconsin

LIFEQUEST INC

LifeSpan Daycare Inc

Linden Health Department

Literations

Little Listeners of the Carolinas

Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)

Long Term Care Ombudsman Services of San Luis Obispo County

Los Angeles LGBT Center

Los Angeles Unified School District

Louisiana Association of Student Assistance Programs

Louisiana Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Louisiana School Psychological Association

Maine Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

March of Dimes







Mary House, Inc.

Maryland Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Massachusetts Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Massachusetts Law Reform Institute

Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Meals on Wheels America

Medical Society of New York State

MENTOR National

MEOA

Michigan Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Minnesota Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Mission: Readiness

Mississippi Center for Justice

Mississippi Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Missouri Budget Project

Missouri Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

MNTRIO Association

MO-KAN-NE Chapter of the Educational Opportunity Association

MomsRising

Montana Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Multnomah Education Service District

Muscular Dystrophy Association

NASDSE

NASTAD

National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd

National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research

National Alliance for Public Charter Schools

National Alliance to End Sexual Violence

National Association for College Admission Counseling







National Association for Music Education

National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities

National Association of County and City Health Officials

National Association of Federally Impacted Schools

National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities

National Association of Regional Councils

National Association of School Psychologists

National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP)

National Association of Social Workers

National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors (NASADAD)

National Association of Workforce Boards

National Center for Learning Disabilities

National Center for Parent Leadership, Advocacy, and Community Empowerment (National PLACE)

National Center for Teacher Residencies (NCTR)

National Child Abuse Coalition

National Coalition Against Domestic Violence

National Coalition for the Homeless

National Coalition of STD Directors

National College Attainment Network

National Council for Community and Education Partnerships

National Council of Jewish Women

National Council of Jewish Women St. Louis

National Council of Teachers of Mathematics

National Council on Aging

National Disability Institute

National Education Association

National Family Planning & Reproductive Health Association

National Health Care for the Homeless Council

National Health Law Program







National Indigenous Women's Resource Center

National Institute for Children's Health Quality

National Job Corps Association

National Juvenile Justice Network

National MS Society

National Network of Public Health Institutes

National Network to End Domestic Violence

National Resource Center on Domestic Violence

National Rural Education Association

National Skills Coalition

National Summer Learning Association (NSLA)

National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable (NVHR)

National Women's Law Center

NC TRIO

Nebraska Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Network Lobby for Catholic Social Justice

Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies

Nevada Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

New England Educational Opportunity Association

New Hampshire Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

New Jersey Association of School Psychologists

New Jersey Association on Correction

New Jersey Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

New Leaders

New Mexico Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

New York Charter Schools Association

New York City Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

New York State Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

North Carolina Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers







North Dakota Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

OCHIN

Ohio Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Oklahoma Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Oregon Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Oregon School Psychologists Association

Oregon TRIO Association

ORGANIZATIONS CONCERNED about RURAL EDUCATION

P.O.S.T Protect Our Stolen Treasures

PA Education Association

PA TRIO

Parents Anonymous Inc.

Parents as Teachers

PbS Learning Institute, Inc

Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Pennsylvania Utility Law Project

Piedmont Habitat for Humanity, Inc.

Pinnacle Community Services

Placer People of Faith Together

Planned Parenthood Federation of America

PlusInc

Poverty Project at the Institute for Policy Studies

Poverty Reduction Services dba Circles Salt Lake

PrEP4All

Prevent Blindness

Prevent Blindness Wisconsin

Prevent Child Abuse Illinois

Pride At Work

Prism Health North Texas







Project Bread

Project FEED

Public Advocacy for Kids

Public Justice Center

Puerto Rico Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

ReadyNation

Rebuild America's Schools

Reproductive Justice Inside

Research!America

RESULTS

RESULTS - Columbus Ohio Group Volunteer

Rhode Island Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Rochester NY RocACTS in Faith in Action.

Ryan White Medical Providers Coalition

Saddle Mountain Unified School District #90/TVHS

Safe States Alliance

Safer Foundation

Saga Education

San Francisco AIDS Foundation

Sanctuary of Hope

Sanctuary of Hope LA

School Social Work Association of America

SchoolHouse Connection

Sciencecorps

SIECUS

Silver State Equality

Sisters of Charity of Nazareth Congregational Leadership

Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine







Society for Neuroscience

Society for Reproductive Investigation

Society for Research in Child Development

Society for Women's Health Research

Society of Family Planning

Society of Women Engineers

Sojourners

South Carolina Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

South Dakota Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Southeastern Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel (SAEOPP)

SSDA

St. Francis Center

State Higher Education Executive Officers Association

StrongHearts Native Helpline

Student Veterans of America

Sugar Law Center for Economic and Social Justice

Susan G. Komen

Teach For America

TEAM for WV Children / Prevent Child Abuse WV

Tennessee Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Texas Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Texas TRIO

The Advocacy Institute

The AIDS Institute

The American College of Preventive Medicine

The Augustinians

The California State University

The Center for Employment Opportunities

The Education Trust







The Forum for Youth Investment

The Hepatitis C Mentor and Support Group, Inc. - HCMSG

The Institute for Human Services

The Michael J Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research

The National Alliance to Advance Adolescent Health

The National Domestic Violence Hotline

The Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America

The STARR Coalition

The Workers Circle

Treatment Action Group

Trust for America's Health

TrustedRiders Inc

U.S. Breastfeeding Committee

UCLA

UnidosUS

Union Presbyterian Food Pantry

United Way of King County

University of California Student Association

University of California System

University of California, Irvine

University of California, San Diego

Utah Association of School Psychologists

Utah Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Utahns Against Hunger

UVM Autism collaborative

Vermont Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Virgin Islands Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Virgin Islands Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Council

Virginia Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers







Virginia Technology Engineering Educator Association

Vision Inc.

Vivent Health

Voice for Adoption

VOICES for Alabama's Children

Voices of Hope, Inc.

Washington Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Washington State Association of Head Start & ECEAP

Washington State Parent Ambassadors

We Are Many United Against Hate

West Virginia Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Western Association of Educational Opportunity Personnel

Whitman-Walker

Wisconsin Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Woman with a Plan

Women Who Never Give Up

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom US

WV TRIO

Wyoming Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

YMCA of the USA

Youth Employment Solutions

Youth First

Youth Villages

ZERO TO THREE