

April 8, 2021

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Chair  
Labor, Health and Human Services,  
Education Appropriations Subcommittee  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Ranking Member  
Labor, Health and Human Services,  
Education Appropriations Subcommittee  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Patty Murray  
Chair  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human  
Services, Education, and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 205150

The Honorable Roy Blunt  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human  
Services, Education, and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairs DeLauro and Murray and Ranking Members Cole and Blunt:

As Congress works to draft the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS) appropriations legislation for FY 2022, the 191 undersigned organizations request that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (NCCDPHP) be properly funded at \$50 million for its Social Determinants of Health program. We sincerely thank Labor-HHS for funding the program for the first time in FY 2021 at \$3 million. The undersigned organizations ask Labor-HHS to build upon that initial investment to ensure that public health departments, academic nonprofit organizations are properly supported to address the social determinants of health in their communities.

The COVID-19 pandemic resources directly impact the health of its residents. Unsafe or unstable housing, income insecurity, lack of transportation, and underlying health inequities put some populations at higher risk during the pandemic. People at disproportionate risk for serious health impacts from COVID-19 are also more likely to suffer secondary consequences, such as loss of income or health care. Now more than ever it is important to address the social and economic conditions, including housing, employment, food security, and education, that contribute significantly to an individual's health. These conditions, collectively referred as the Social Determinants of Health (SDOH), have rightfully been receiving increased attention from insurance companies, hospitals, healthcare systems, and governmental agencies.

help address policies that inhibit health. For example, while the healthcare system can offer in-house social services assistance at a clinical site, a public health department can complement those efforts by convening community organizations and partners to promote clinic-to-community linkages, advocate for SDOH-related reimbursement, and develop community resource materials.

However, most local and state health and community agencies lack funding and tools to support these cross-sector efforts and are limited in doing so by disease-specific federal funding. Given appropriate funding and technical assistance, more communities could engage in opportunities to address social determinants of health that contribute to high healthcare costs and preventable inequities in health outcomes.

A healthier, more resilient population and stronger economy require us to prevent and control health conditions that raise health care costs and put lives at risk. We thank you for your leadership in FY 2021 and your consideration of our FY 2022 request to continue building up CDC's SDOH program. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact Daphne Delgado, Senior Government Relations Manager at Trust for America's Health at [ddelgado@tfah.org](mailto:ddelgado@tfah.org).

Sincerely,

**Nationa**



Trust for America's Health  
Unmarried, Single But Not Alone LLC.  
WE in the World

Well Being Trust  
Wholesome Wave  
YMCA of the USA

**State & Local Organizations (68):**

Adagio Health  
Addiction Connections Resource  
Addiction Providers of North Carolina  
AIDS Alabama  
Black Health Coalition of Wisconsin, Inc.  
Brighter Beginnings  
California Black Health Network  
Catholic Community Services of Southern  
Arizona  
Center for Advocacy for the Rights and  
Interests of the Elderly (CARIE)  
Childhood Obesity Prevention Coalition  
(WA State)  
Colorado School Medicaid Consortium  
Community enCompass  
CUNY  
DHS Sacramento County  
Eastside Dental  
Equality California  
Fact Forward  
Flint Rising  
Florida Public Health Association  
Florida Rural Health Association  
Gorhan Public Health Consulting and  
Greater Nashua Food Council  
Greater Chicago Food Depository  
Greater Flint Health Coalition  
Habilitative Systems, Inc.  
Hawaii Health & Harm Reduction Center  
Hawai'i State Rural Health Association  
Health by Design  
Healthy Harford  
Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio  
Immunize Nevada  
Impetus - Let's Get Started LLC  
Indiana Public Health Association  
Indiana University Health  
Jefferson County Public Health CO  
Low Income Housing Coalition of Alabama  
Maine Public Health Association

Massachusetts Public Health Association  
Maternal and Child Health Access  
Mel Leaman Free Clinic  
Metropolitan Area Planning Council  
MIKE Program  
Minnesota Oral Health Coalition  
Minnesota Society for Public Health  
Education  
National Capital Area Society for Public  
Health Education (NCA SOPHE)  
New Jersey Housing Collaborative  
New Jersey Public Health Association  
New York State Public Health Association  
North Runnels Hospital  
Partnership for Southern Equity  
Prevention Action Alliance  
Public Health Solutions  
Revitalize Community Development  
Corporation  
Safe Streets, Wichita  
Silver State Equality-Nevada  
SLM Consulting, LLC  
Tennessee Justice Center  
Texas Health Resources  
  
The Consortium  
The Family Resource Network  
The Health Trust  
The Wall Las Memorias  
Trinity Alliance of the Capital Region, Inc.  
United Way of Greenwood and Abbeville  
Counties  
United Way of Salt Lake  
Utah Public Health Association  
Voices of Hope, Inc.  
Washington State Public Health Association