

# Protect Children's Health: Fund Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education (CHGME)

April 8, 2019

The Honorable Roy Blunt  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and  
Human Services, Education  
and Related Agencies  
Senate Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Patty Murray  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and  
Human Services, Education  
and Related Agencies  
Senate Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and  
Human Services, Education  
and Related Agencies  
House Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and  
Human Services, Education  
and Related Agencies  
House Committee on Appropriations

Dear Chairman Blunt, Ranking Member Murray, Chairman DeLauro and Ranking Member Cole:

The Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education (CHGME) program is a vital investment in strengthening the pediatric workforce and access to care for children. **As groups dedicated to protecting and advancing the health of America's children, we thank you for your longstanding bipartisan support of CHGME and ask you to provide \$400 million in FY 2020 funding for the program.**

Since Congress created the CHGME program in 1999 children's hospitals have been able to grow their training programs significantly, increasing the number of pediatric providers and addressing critical shortages in pediatric subspecialty care. Today, half of all pediatric residents are trained at CHGME recipient hospitals.

Sustaining pediatric training programs at children's hospitals to meet the need of children, now and in the future, requires bolstering our national commitment. Support for training pediatric providers through CHGME lags behind the per-trainee levels provided through other federal programs. We cannot risk falling behind in advancing children's health. Ongoing workforce shortages need to be addressed, most acutely among pediatric specialties such as developmental pediatrics, child and adolescent psychiatry, and pediatric genetics and genomics, and CHGME is mission to meeting this need.

We recognize that Congress has a responsibility to carefully consider the nation's spending priorities. **We respectfully request that Congress continue to demonstrate bipartisan support for children's health and provide \$400 million in funding for CHGME for FY 2020.**

Sincerely,

Academic Pediatric Association  
American Academy of Pediatrics

American Association of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry  
American College of Cardiology  
American Hospital Association  
American Pediatric Society  
American Psychiatric Association  
American Society of Pediatric Nephrology  
American Thoracic Society  
America's Essential Hospitals  
Association for Community Affiliated Plans  
Association of American Medical Colleges  
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs  
The Catholic Health Association of the United States  
Children's Defense Fund  
Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service, Inc. (COA)  
Easterseals,  
First Focus Campaign for Children  
The Jewish Federations of North America  
March of Dimes  
The National Alliance to Advance Adolescent Health  
National Association for Children's Behavioral Health  
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners  
National Hispanic Medical Association  
National Military Family Association  
Pediatric Policy Council  
Society for Pediatric Research  
Vizient, Inc.