

April 13, 2023

The Honorable Robert Aderholt  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, and Education  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin  
Chairwoman  
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, and Education  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, and Education  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, and Education  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairs Aderholt and Baldwin and Ranking Members DeLauro and Moore Capito:

As Congress works to draft the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS) appropriations legislation for fiscal year (FY) 2024, the 151 undersigned organizations request that the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Social Determinants of Health program, within the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (NCCDPHP), be funded for at least \$100 million**— in line with President Biden's FY2024 request. We sincerely thank Labor-HHS for providing \$8 million in FY2023 for the program. The undersigned organizations ask Labor-HHS to build upon this promising investment to ensure that public health departments, academic institutions, and nonprofit organizations are properly supported to address the social determinants of health in their communities.

Now more than ever it is important to address the social, economic, and environmental conditions, including housing, employment, food security, transportation, and education, that contribute significantly to an individual's health outcomes over their lifetime and community health at-large. These non-medical drivers of health, collectively referred as the Social Determinants of Health (SDOH), are estimated to contribute 80-90% to a person's health outcomes, while traditional healthcare only accounts for 10-20%.<sup>1</sup>

CDC's SDOH program is addressing these non-medical drivers of chronic disease and health disparities. While clinicians can identify non-medical social needs and make referrals to community-based and social service organizations, they cannot ensure that there are adequate resources and policies in place to meet the needs of patients on their own. Healthcare is most effective when it can work with other sectors to improve the health and well-being outcomes for individuals and communities. Public health departments and community organizations are uniquely situated to build these collaborations across sectors and identify SDOH priorities in communities. For example, while the healthcare system can offer in-house social services

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<sup>1</sup> <https://nam.edu/social-determinants-of-health-101-for-health-care-five-plus-five/>

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, interpret data to identify areas of need, find innovative solutions, and develop community resource materials. The increase in FY2024 would build upon previous investments to develop, implement, and evaluate action plans to improve health outcomes in additional jurisdictions.

To build the evidence base for future SDOH work, CDC evaluated existing multi-sector coalitions that are working to advance health equity through SDOH-centered solutions. In a first-year evaluation, CDC found that of 42 SDOH community partnerships evaluated, 90% of them contributed to community changes that promote healthy living.<sup>2</sup> Of the 29 partnerships that reported health outcomes data, their programs are projected to save \$644 million in medical and productivity costs over 20 years.<sup>3</sup>

A healthier, more resilient population and stronger economy require us to prevent and address the non-medical factors that cause increased healthcare costs and that put lives at risk. We thank you for your leadership in FY2023 and your consideration of our FY2024 request to continue building up CDC's SDOH program. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact Madison West, Associate Government Relations Manager at Trust for America's Health at [mwest@tfah.org](mailto:mwest@tfah.org).

Sincerely,

1889 Jefferson Center for Population Health  
2020 Mom  
211info  
AAHFN  
Accountable Health, LLC  
Action for Healthy Kids  
advocates for better children's diets  
AIDS Alabama  
Aligning for Health  
All Youth Access, LLC  
America Walks  
American Association for Psychoanalysis in Clinical Social Work  
American Association of Birth Centers  
American Association of Colleges of Nursing  
American Association on Health and Disability  
American College of Physicians  
American Federation of Teachers  
American Heart Association  
American Medical Women's Association  
American Nutrition Association

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.cdc.gov/chronicdisease/programs-impact/sdoh/pdf/GFF-eval-brief-508.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> *ibid*

American Physical Therapy Association  
American Podiatric Medical Association  
American Psychological Association  
American Public Health Association  
Association of American Medical Colleges  
Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs  
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials  
Association of State Public Health Nutritionists  
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America  
Big Cities Health Coalition  
Brighter Beginnings  
Brooklyn Perinatal Network Inc.  
Ca Black Health Network  
Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids  
Centennial Area Health Education Center  
Center for Advocacy for the Rights and Interests of Elders (CARIE)  
Center for Biological Diversity  
Center for Planning Excellence  
Center for Promotion of Child Development through Primary Care  
ChangeLab Solutions  
ChopChop Family  
Christian Council of Delmarva  
Civitas Networks for Health  
Coalition of National Health Education Organizations  
Coalition to End Social Isolation and Loneliness  
Colorado School Medicaid Consortium  
Common Threads  
Community Health Council of Wyandotte County  
Continual Care Solutions  
Core Physicians, LLC  
Crawford County Public Health  
Einstein Healthcare Network  
Epilepsy Alliance North Carolina  
Epilepsy Foundation  
Epilepsy Information Service of Wake Forest School of Medicine  
Equality California  
Everyday Life Consulting  
Exeter Hospital  
Fact Forward  
Foundation for Healthy Generations  
Global Alliance for Behavioral Health and Social Justice  
Greenwood Counts Community Consortium  
Greenwood County Community Consortium

Habilitative Systems, Inc.  
Health by Design  
Health Care Without Harm  
Health Outreach Partners  
Health Resources in Action  
Healthcare Leadership Council  
Healthcare Ready  
Healthy Schools Campaign  
HealthyWomen  
Hogg Foundation for Mental Health  
I am Health Education  
iHealth  
Indiana Public Health Association  
Indy Hunger Network  
International OCD Foundation  
JEDI Health Care and Education, LLC  
Keystone Rural Health Consortia, Inc.  
Knox Public Health  
Lakeshore Foundation  
Make Well Known Foundation  
Mendocino County Public Health - Community Wellness  
Miles for migraine  
MindWise Innovations  
MountainCare  
National Alliance to impact the Social Determinants of Health  
National Association for Public Health Policy  
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners  
National Hispanic Medical Association  
National Immigration Law Center  
National League for Nursing  
National Network of Public Health Institutes  
National Nurse-Led Care Consortium  
National Working Positive Coalition  
New York State Public Health Association  
NH Alliance for Immigrants and Refugees  
NH Hunger Solutions  
NJ Public Health Association  
North Carolina Alliance for Health  
Obesity Action Coalition  
Oral Healthcare At Home, Inc.  
PAL: Play. Advocate. Live Well.  
Partnership for Public Health  
Patient Access Network (PAN) Foundation

Policy Center for Maternal Mental Health (formerly 2020 Mom)  
Postpartum Support International  
Prevent Blindness  
Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association  
Public Health Solutions  
Redstone Global Center for Prevention & Wellness  
Respiratory Health Association  
Revitalize Community Development Corporation  
RiverStone Health  
Rush University  
Safe Routes Partnership  
Self Regional Healthcare  
SERVICIOS Y MAS iNC.  
Silver State Equality-Nevada  
Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange Healthcare Foundation  
Smoke Free St Joe  
Society for Public Health Education  
Southeastern Michigan Health Association  
Strawberry Fields, Inc  
Student National Medical Association  
Tahoe Health, LLC  
Texas Health Resources  
The American College of Preventive Medicine  
The Consortium  
The Foundation for Sustainable Communities  
The Gerontological Society of America  
The Headache and Migraine Policy Forum  
The Health Care Improvement Foundation, Inc.  
The Kennedy Forum  
The Los Angeles Trust for Childrens Health  
The Praxis Project  
Trinity Alliance of the Capital Region, Inc.  
Trust for America's Health  
United Way of the Lakelands  
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) Health System  
UsAgainstAlzheimer's  
Valley AIDS Council  
Voices of Hope, Inc.  
WARM NC  
Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility  
Washington State Public Health Association  
WE in the World  
WelCore Health

West Virginians for Affordable Health Care  
Women Advancing Nutrition Dietetics and Agriculture (WANDA)  
Zero Breast Cancer