



COALITION *for*  
HEALTH FUNDING



May 10, 2022

The Honorable Patrick Leahy  
Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Shelby  
Vice Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Chair  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Leahy, Chair DeLauro, Vice Chairman Shelby, and Ranking Member Granger:

The 369 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 by enacting earlier COVID-19 relief funding and funding for ongoing programs for FY 2022. We urge you to build on those investments by supporting a significant increase in the FY 2023 allocation for the Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee that ensures the robust, sustained, and predictable investments that these programs require.

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 of at least \$239.59 billion 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, ultimately undermining the future strength, economic development, and security of our nation.

The COVID-19 emergency funding Congress enacted helped to address new costs and needs caused by the pandemic on a short-term basis. However, these services face a funding cliff as that funding is spent. 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. 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:

- Serving 1.5 million fewer low-income people through the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) in 2018 than in 2010, despite growing need, because funding was reduced from \$5.1 billion to \$3.7 billion over this period (and cut 40.6 [percent](#) from FY 2010 to FY 2022, adjusted for inflation).

- Eroding the public health and research infrastructure and workforce, limiting our ability to address disease prevention, respond to the COVID-19 crisis, 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 active citizenship.
- Providing inadequate resources to deal with the substance use disorder crisis.
- While starting to reverse Maternal and Child Health Block Grant funding losses, FY 2022 funding remains 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 cut [24 percent](#) from FY 2010 to FY 2022, adjusted for inflation.

Without a substantial increase in the Subcommittee's allocation, it will be impossible to support all of the essential programs in the Labor-HHS-Education bill at the levels needed to invest appropriately across key priorities, including public health infrastructure; emergency preparedness and infectious disease surveillance; disease prevention and management; health research; efforts to reduce maternal mortality rates among women of color; overcoming disruptions in learning disproportionately affecting students of color, with disabilities, and with low incomes; continuing to improve college affordability and completion; responding to the opioid epidemic; improving mental health services; and achieving the intended innovation of the bipartisan Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act.

In order to provide an adequate increase for Labor-HHS-Education services, there must be a robust increase in the total allocated for non-defense discretionary (NDD) programs. We note that very high increases needed for V.A. Medical Care (estimated by the Biden Administration to require a 22.5 percent increase for FY 2023), if included within the NDD appropriations category, will swallow a large proportion of the funding available to respond to growing needs in Labor-HHS-Education as well as other areas. We support holding V.A. Medical Care funding separate to allow for other essential funding increases.



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We urge you to commit to improving the lives of Americans by significantly boosting the allocation for the Labor-HHS-Education bill for FY 2023 to provide needed services for the American public. If you have questions about this letter, please contact:

- Sarah Abernathy, Committee for Education Funding ([abernathy@cef.org](mailto:abernathy@cef.org));
- Erin Will Morton, Coalition for Health Funding ([emorton@dc-crd.com](mailto:emorton@dc-crd.com));
- Megan Evans, Campaign to Invest in America’s Workforce ([MeganE@nationalskillscoalition.org](mailto:MeganE@nationalskillscoalition.org)); or
- Deborah Weinstein, Coalition on Human Needs ([dweinstein@chn.org](mailto:dweinstein@chn.org))

Sincerely,

20/20 Vision DC  
 9/11 Day  
 AASA, The School Superintendents Association  
 Academy for Radiology & Biomedical Imaging Research  
 Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics  
 Accessia Health  
 Accord  
 Addiction Connections Resource  
 Adult Learning Alliance  
 Afterschool Alliance  
 Agriculture Teachers Association of Texas  
 AIDS Action Baltimore  
 AIDS Alabama  
 AIDS Foundation Chicago  
 AIDS United  
 Alabama Arise  
 Alabama Case - ALACASE  
 Alaska Association of Career and Technical Education  
 Alaska Council of Administrators of Special Education  
 Alger Marquette Community Action Board  
 All Brains Belong VT  
 Alzheimer's Association/Alzheimer's Impact Movement  
 America Forward  
 America Learns  
 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 for Teacher Education  
 American Association of Colleges of Nursing  
 American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine  
 American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy



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American Association of Community Colleges  
American Association of Neuromuscular & Electrodiagnostic Medicine  
American Association on Health and Disability  
American Brain Coalition  
American College of Clinical Pharmacy  
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
American College of Physicians  
American College of Preventive Medicine  
American Council on Education  
American Educational Research Association  
American Federation of School Administrators  
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees  
American Federation of Teachers  
American Friends Service Committee  
American Heart Association  
American Library Association  
American Liver Foundation  
American Lung Association  
American Nurses Association  
American Psychological Association  
American Public Health Association  
American School Counselor Association  
American Society for Microbiology  
American Society of Hematology  
American Society of Nephrology  
American Society of Pediatric Nephrology  
American Statistical Association  
American Thoracic Society  
AMORC  
Appalachian Community Action and Development Agency, Inc.  
Arizona Council for Administrator of Special Education (AzCASE)  
Arizona Council for Exceptional Children  
Arkansas CASE  
Arthritis Foundation  
Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance, AFL-CIO  
Assistive Technology Industry Association (ATIA)  
Association for Career and Technical Education  
Association for Clinical and Translational Science  
Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology  
Association for Psychological Science  
Association of American Medical Colleges  
Association of Assistive Technology Act Programs  
Association of Clinicians for the Underserved  
Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT)  
Association of Educational Service Agencies  
Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs



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Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities  
Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs  
Association of Population Centers  
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities  
Association of Public Data Users  
Association of Public Health Laboratories  
Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO)  
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials  
Association of University Centers on Disabilities  
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses  
Autistic Self Advocacy Network  
B.H. Resident Support Group  
Bancroft-Rosalie Comm School  
BellXcel  
Big Cities Health Coalition  
Biophysical Society  
Brightpoint Head Start  
Business Leaders United  
California Association for Career and Technical Education  
California Family Resource Association  
Campaign to Invest in America's Workforce  
Career and Technical Association of Texas  
CAST, Inc.  
Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)  
Center for Learner Equity  
CenterLink: The Community of LGBT Centers  
Central VT SU  
Chickasaw County Public Health and Homecare Services  
Child Abuse Prevention Council of Sacramento  
Child Care Law Center  
Children's Defense Fund  
Chronic Disease Alliance  
Church World Service  
City Year, Inc.  
Clinical Research Forum  
Coalition for a Better Acre  
Coalition for Clinical and Translational Science  
Coalition for Health Funding  
Coalition for Nonprofit Housing and Economic Development  
Coalition on Human Needs  
College Possible  
Colorado ACTE  
Committee for Children  
Committee for Education Funding (CEF)  
Community Action, Inc.  
Community Change Action



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Community Colleges for Iowa  
Community Food Advocates  
Community Liver Alliance  
Conference of Educational Administrators of Schools and Programs for the Deaf  
Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, U.S. Provinces  
Consortium for School Networking (CoSN)  
COPD Foundation  
Council for Exceptional Children  
Council for Opportunity in Education  
Council of Administrators of Special Education  
Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates (COPAA)  
Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists  
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation  
Digestive Disease National Coalition  
Disabled In Action of Metropolitan NY  
Dystonia Medical Research Foundation  
Early Learning Essentials  
EDGE Consulting Partners  
Education Policy Program at New America  
Endocrine Society  
Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences  
First Focus Campaign for Children  
FoodCorps  
Foundation for Sarcoidosis Research  
Franklin Primary Health Center, Inc.  
Friends of the Institute of Education Sciences  
Futures Without Violence  
GBS|CIDP Foundation International  
Georgia ACTE  
Georgia-CASE  
Global Liver Institute  
Good Days  
Goodwill Industries International, Inc.  
Graham County Schools  
Grand St. Settlement  
Green Dot Public Schools National  
Green Mountain Self-advocates  
Harford County Public Schools  
Hawaii HomeOwnership Center  
Health Care Voices  
HealthyWomen  
Higher Education Consortium for Special Education (HECSE)  
HIMSS  
HIV Dental Alliance  
HIV Medicine Association  
Hope Charities



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Human Rights Campaign  
Human Service Chamber of Franklin County  
Humboldt UU Fellowship  
Hunger Free America  
Illinois Alliance of Administrators of Special Education  
Illinois Society for the Prevention of Blindness  
Immigration Hub  
Indiana Council of Administrators of Special Education  
Infectious Diseases Society of America  
Interfaith Community Housing of Delaware, Inc.  
International Certification & Reciprocity Consortium  
International Foundation for Gastrointestinal Disorders  
Interstitial Cystitis Association  
Iowa Citizen Action Network  
Islamic Relief USA  
Johnson Park Center (JPC)  
Kansas Association of Special Education Administrators  
Kentucky Association for Career and Technical Education (KACTE)  
Kentucky Task Force on Hunger  
Kids Win Missouri  
Knowledge Alliance  
KnowledgePanel  
KY Council of Administrators of Special Education  
Lakeshore Foundation  
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)  
Lymphatic Education & Research Network  
March of Dimes  
Massachusetts Service Alliance  
Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.  
Meals on Wheels America  
MENTOR  
METAvivor  
Midwest Minnesota Community Development Corporation  
Minnesota Administrators for Special Education  
Missouri Council of Administrators of Special Education  
MomsRising  
Muscular Dystrophy Association  
Musikanten  
NAPHSIS  
NASTAD  
National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd  
National AfterSchool Association  
National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research  
National Alliance to End Sexual Violence  
National Alopecia Areata Foundation  
National Association for College Admission Counseling





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National Association for Music Education  
National Association of County and City Health Officials  
National Association of Elementary School Principals  
National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS)  
National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities  
National Association of RSVP Directors  
National Association of School Psychologists  
National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP)  
National Association of Workforce Boards  
National Black Justice Coalition  
National Center for Families Learning  
National Center for Learning Disabilities  
National Center for Parent Leadership, Advocacy, and Community Empowerment (National PLACE)  
National Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
National Coalition for Literacy  
National College Attainment Network  
National Community Action Partnership  
National Council of Jewish Women  
National Council of State Directors of Adult Education  
National Council of Teachers of Mathematics  
National Council on Aging  
National Council on Independent Living  
National Eczema Association  
National Family Planning & Reproductive Health Association  
National Health Care for the Homeless Council  
National Latino Farmers & Ranchers Trade Association  
National MS Society  
National NeighborWorks Association  
National Network of Public Health Institutes  
National Network to End Domestic Violence  
National Pancreas Foundation  
National PTA  
National Rural Education Association  
National Rural Health Association  
National School Boards Association  
National Scleroderma Foundation  
National Senior Corps Association  
National Skills Coalition  
National Summer Learning Association (NSLA)  
National Superintendents Roundtable  
National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable  
National Youth Leadership Council  
National Council for Community and Education Partnerships (NCCEP)  
Neighborhood Housing Services of South Florida, Inc.  
NeighborWorks Northeast Nebraska





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NephCure Kidney International  
Nevada Association of Career and Technical Educators  
New Mexico Association for Career Technical Education  
Next100  
NH Association of Special Education Administrators  
NJ Public Health Association  
NM CASE  
North Carolina AIDS Action Network  
North Jersey Aids Alliance, Inc. d.b.a. North Jersey Community Research Initiative (NJCRI)  
Nutrition and Medical Foods Coalition  
NY CASE  
Ohio Association of Pupil Services Administrators  
OraSure Technologies, Inc.  
Oregonizers  
PA Association for Adult Continuing Education  
PA CASE  
Paraquad  
Parents as Teachers  
Pennsylvania Head Start Association  
Philadelphia Department of Public Health  
Physician Assistant Education Association  
Planned Parenthood Federation of America  
Population Association of America  
Poverty project at the Institute for Policy Studies  
Prevent Blindness  
Prevent Blindness Georgia  
Prevent Blindness Iowa  
Prevent Blindness North Carolina  
Prevent Blindness Wisconsin  
Prevent Child Abuse California  
Project Bread  
Project Sleep  
ProLiteracy  
Public Advocacy for Kids (PAK)  
Public Health Institute  
Pulmonary Hypertension Association  
R2H Action [Right to Health]  
Rachel Carson Council  
Rebuild America's Schools  
Research Allies for Lifelong Learning  
Research!America  
Restless Legs Syndrome Foundation  
RESULTS DC/MD  
Rise Up WV  
Rural Schools Assn of NYS  
SAGA Innovations/ dba Saga Education



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San Francisco AIDS Foundation  
SBP  
School Social Work Association of America  
SchoolHouse Connection  
Self-Help Home Improvement Project  
Service Year Alliance  
Sisters of Charity of Nazareth Congregational Leadership  
Sisters of Charity of Nazareth Western Province Leadership  
Sleep Research Society  
Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America  
Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine  
Society for Neuroscience  
Society for Reproductive Investigation  
Society for Women's Health Research  
Society of General Internal Medicine  
Sojourners  
SolidarityINFOService  
South Dakota CASE  
SPAN Parent Advocacy Network (SPAN)  
State Higher Education Executive Officers Association  
States for Service Coalition  
Ste. Genevieve R-II School District  
Tahirih Justice Center  
Teach For America  
TESOL International Association  
Texas Council of Administrators of Special Education  
The Advocacy Institute  
The AIDS Institute  
The Arc of the United States  
The Education Trust  
The Massachusetts Administrators for Special Education (ASE)  
The National Domestic Violence Hotline  
The Sturge-Weber Foundation  
Tourette Association of America  
Trust for America's Health  
TrustedRiders Inc  
Tulane University  
Ujjima Inc., The National Center on Violence Against Women in the Black Community  
United States Workforce Associations  
University of California Student Association  
University of California System  
University of Rochester  
US COPD Coalition  
US Hereditary Angioedema Association  
Utah Association for Career and Technical Education  
Valley Oak Children's Services



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Voices for National Service  
Voices of Hope  
WAIHA Warriors  
Washington Association for Career and Technical Education  
Washington CASE  
West Virginians for Affordable Health Care  
Westfield Community Center Assoc  
Wisconsin Council of Administrators of Special Services  
World Education, Inc.  
Wyoming Association for Career and Technical Education  
YMCA of the USA  
Youth Development Inc., YDI  
Youth Villages  
YWCA USA  
ZERO TO THREE