



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
CHRONIC DISEASE DIRECTORS

Promoting Health. Preventing Disease.

The Honorable Roy Blunt
Chairman
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee
on Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education and Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray
Ranking Member
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee
on Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education and Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
House Appropriations Subcommittee
on Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education and Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Subcommittee
on Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education and Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20515

March 15, 2018

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

On behalf of the undersigned 64 organizations, we are writing to encourage your continued support for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in the FY 2019 appropriations process, specifically the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion at CDC. We strongly urge you to maintain FY 2017 funding levels for CDC chronic disease programs and, where possible, provide targeted increases to key public health programs. Although chronic diseases are largely preventable and the complications of chronic diseases are largely controllable, they are the leading cause of death and disability, and the leading driver of healthcare costs, in our nation and in all 50 states and U.S. territories.

Our nation's leading causes of death and disability – heart disease, stroke, cancer, diabetes, arthritis, epilepsy and others – place a disproportionate burden on American families and employers. These diseases are largely preventable and the associated complications from these chronic diseases are largely controllable. We need a sizeable investment in chronic disease prevention and control programs to bend the cost curve in healthcare spending.

We thank you for rejecting the Administration's proposal for "America's Block Grant" and for maintaining the existing funding mechanisms of this Center in FY 2018 and urge you to continue to lead that effort in FY 2019. The current funding provides resources and technical expertise through state health departments, national organizations, and local partner groups. These entities support interventions to prevent and control chronic disease and promote opportunities for people to reach their full health and human potential and be personally responsible for their health and the health of their families. Maintaining the existing funding mechanisms allows for ongoing accountability, transparency and measurable outcomes with Congress, states and taxpayers.

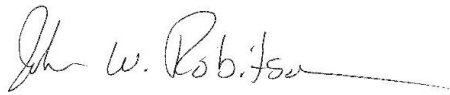
As we look to FY 2019 funding decisions, we will continue to support sustained categorical funding for Diabetes, Heart Disease and Stroke, Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity Prevention, and tobacco control programs operated through state health agencies in partnership with communities across America that are proposed for the block grant. We also encourage sustained funding for key cancer programs within the Center including breast & cervical,

colorectal, prostate, ovarian, and skin cancer, registries, and cancer survivorship, along with Prevention Research Centers, Healthy Schools, REACH, Million Hearts, Alzheimer's disease, epilepsy, lupus, and other health promotion programs.

The groups listed below, representing a broad spectrum of patients, public health and healthcare professionals and providers, strongly encourage you to continue to support these essential CDC programs to provide evidence-based services that spread the tools necessary for all Americans to reach full health potential and life expectancy.

We thank you again for your leadership and support of public health, prevention, and health promotion.

Sincerely,



John W. Robitscher, MPH
CEO
National Association of Chronic Disease Directors

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics	East Stroudsburg University, Center for
Active Living By Design	Public Health Practice and Innovation
America Walks	ECAN Esophageal Cancer Action Network, Inc.
American Association of Diabetes Educators	Emory Centers for Training and Technical Assistance
American Bone Health	Emory University
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network	Gbuahn Health Home
American College of Preventive Medicine	Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing at NYU Meyers
American College of Rheumatology	College of Nursing
American College of Sports Medicine	Hawaii State Department of Health
American Heart Association	Hawaii State Department of Health,
American Institute for Cancer Research (AICR)	Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion
American Podiatric Medical Association, Inc.	Hefelfinger Consulting, LLC
AMY Consulting, LLC	Kentucky Cancer Registry
Arcadia Center for Sustainable Food &	La Clinica de Familia, Inc
Agriculture	Lake County General Health District
Arthritis Foundation	Lakeshore Foundation
Aspen Valley Hospital	Louisiana Cancer Prevention and Control
Association of State and Territorial Dental	National Association of County and City Health Officials
Directors	National Association of Chronic Disease Directors
Cancer Council of the Pacific Islands	National Coalition for Promoting Physical Activity
Diabetes Patient Advocacy Coalition	National Fitness Foundation
	National Forum

National Kidney Foundation
National Physical Activity Plan Alliance
New Mexico Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
(NMAND)
New Mexico Public Health Association
Oregon Health & Science University Prevention
Research Center
Partnership to Fight Chronic Disease
Partnership to Reduce Cancer in Rhode Island
PFC Consulting, LLC
Prevention Research Center
SHAPE America - Society of Health and
Physical Educators
Solve ME/CFS Initiative

South Carolina Tobacco-Free Collaborative
South East American Indian Council, Inc.
Stanford University
StonyBrook University
Tampa Bay ASthma Coalition
The Anxiety & Depression Initiative
The Rural Institute for Inclusive Communities
Triage Cancer
University at Albany, State University of New York
University of Colorado School of Medicine
University of Hawaii at Manoa
VisionServe Alliance
Washington State Alliance of YMCA's
Washington University in St. Louis