

## Return on Investment: A Healthy Nation Is A Prosperous Nation

March 24, 2011

Dear Member of Congress:

Our health is inextricably linked to our mission readiness on the battlefield, our productivity on the job, our educational attainment in the classroom, and our competitiveness around the world. Federal agencies and programs have a unique role in enhancing Americans' health and well-being. Investment in these areas has and will continue to show returns on taxpayer dollars. Given the critical nature of these programs, we recommend funding of \$65 billion for discretionary public health programs (Function 550) in the FY 2012 budget resolution. In developing our recommendation, we strived to balance reducing the deficit without compromising Americans' immediate health needs.

Public health is the science and art of preventing disease, promoting physical and behavioral wellness, supporting personal responsibility, and prolonging life in communities where people live, work, and learn. The federal health agencies comprising the public health continuum—National Institutes of Health, Food and Drug Administration, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Health Resources and Services Administration, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, and Indian Health Service, among others—have benefited from longstanding, bi-partisan support of Congress and administrations, and Americans' lives are better because of it. These agencies have, and will continue to support Americans in making healthy choices and protect and improve our lives and welfare.

The President's FY 2012 budget request misses an opportunity to invest in Americans' health, providing inconsistent and in most cases insufficient support for these important agencies and programs. The undersigned 470 national, state, and local organizations and six former Surgeons General support the goal of deficit reduction. However, limiting budget reductions to non-security, discretionary spending—which comprises only one-eighth of federal spending—will not significantly reduce the deficit, nor will it make a dent in the national debt. Instead, these cuts will do more harm than good, compromising the health of our citizens, our communities, and our nation.

Alternatively, our requested \$7 billion increase over FY 2010 Function 550 would bolster:

- Biomedical, Behavioral, and Health Services Research: Enhancing scientific discovery; saving lives, revitalizing local economies, and preserving our nation's long-term competitiveness.
- Food and Drugs: Assuring the safety of our nation's food and the safety and efficacy of drugs, biologics, vaccines, and medical devices.
- Disease Prevention and Health Promotion: Strengthening capacity in states and communities to prevent and treat costly chronic and infectious diseases; protecting Americans in the event of public health threats; and ensuring those with disabilities reach their highest potential in function and health.
- Health Professions Education: Assuring that there is a robust workforce of doctors, nurses, dentists, physician assistants, public health providers and other health professionals to care for Americans in need.

- Mental Health and Substance Abuse: Assuring access to needed services for hundreds of thousands in need of care, including veterans and service members returning from Iraq and Afghanistan.
- Health Care for American Indians and Alaska Natives: Reversing current health disparities for a population that now suffers a life expectancy that is four years lower than the general population.
- Safety Net Health Care Services: Assuring access to basic and targeted health care services for vulnerable populations—children, the elderly, and the uninsured.

Our recommendation does not include and is over and above funding provided through emergency requests, user fees, and mandatory transfers.

We thank you for your ongoing support of the public health continuum, and look forward to working with you. If you have questions, please contact Emily J. Holubowich, Executive Director of the Coalition for Health Funding, at [eholubowich@dc-crd.com](mailto:eholubowich@dc-crd.com) or 202.484.1100.

Sincerely,

Academic Pediatric Association  
 Academy of General Dentistry  
 Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses  
 Academy of Radiology Research  
 Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research  
 Adult Congenital Heart Association  
 Advocates for Youth  
 AHEPA Cooley's Anemia Foundation  
 AIDS Action Baltimore  
 AIDS Action Committee of Massachusetts, Inc.  
 AIDS Alliance for Children, Youth & Families  
 AIDS Foundation of Chicago  
 AIDS Project Los Angeles  
 AIDS United  
 Alliance for a Stronger FDA  
 Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine  
 Alliance for Aging Research  
 Alliance for Integrative Health Care  
 Alpha-1 Association  
 Alpha-1 Foundation  
 Alstrom Syndrome International  
 Alzheimer's Association  
 America Walks  
 American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry  
 American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology  
 American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing  
 American Academy of Dermatology Association  
 American Academy of Family Physicians  
 American Academy of Neurology  
 American Academy of Nurse Practitioners  
 American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology

Joined by,

Richard H. Carmona, MD, MPH, FACS  
 17th Surgeon General of the United States

Steven K. Galson, MD, MPH  
 Rear Admiral, USPHS (Ret.)  
 Acting U.S. Surgeon General 2007-2009

M. Joycelyn Elders, MD, MS  
 15<sup>th</sup> United States Surgeon General

C. Everett Koop, MD, ScD  
 13<sup>th</sup> United States Surgeon General

Kenneth Moritsugu, MD, MPH, FACPM,  
 Rear Admiral, USPHS (Ret.)  
 Acting U.S. Surgeon General 2006-2007

David Satcher, MD, PhD  
 16th Surgeon General of the United States

American Academy of Pediatrics  
American Academy of Periodontology  
American Academy of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation  
American Academy of Physician Assistants  
American Art Therapy Association  
American Association for Cancer Research  
American Association for Dental Research  
American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry  
American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy  
American Association for Respiratory Care  
American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases  
American Association of Anatomists  
American Association of Colleges of Nursing  
American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine  
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy  
American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine  
American Association of Immunologists  
American Association of Nurse Anesthetists  
American Association of People with Disabilities  
American Association of Public Health Dentistry  
American Association of Women Dentists  
American Association on Health and Disability  
American Autoimmune Related Diseases Association  
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network  
American College of Cardiology  
American College of Clinical Pharmacy  
American College of Medical Genetics  
American College of Neuropsychopharmacology  
American College of Physicians  
American College of Preventive Medicine  
American College of Rheumatology  
American College of Sports Medicine  
American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
American Counseling Association  
American Dental Association  
American Dental Education Association  
American Dental Hygienists' Association  
American Diabetes Association  
American Dietetic Association  
American Educational Research Association  
American Epilepsy Society  
American Federation for Medical Research  
American Foundation for Suicide Prevention/SPAN USA  
American Gastroenterological Association  
American Geriatrics Society  
American Health Planning Association (AHPA)  
American Heart Association  
American Hospital Association  
American Institute for Medical and Biomedical Engineering  
American Liver Foundation

American Lung Association  
American Medical Student Association  
American Medical Women's Association  
American Mental Health Counselors Association  
American Nephrology Nurses Association  
American Nurses Association  
American Occupational Therapy Association  
American Organization of Nurse Executives  
American Pediatric Society  
American Physical Therapy Association  
American Physiological Society  
American Podiatric Medical Association  
American Psychiatric Association  
American Psychological Association  
American Public Health Association  
American School Health Association  
American Sleep Apnea Association  
American Social Health Association  
American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology  
American Society for Bone and Mineral Research  
American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science  
American Society for Clinical Pathology  
American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy  
American Society for Microbiology  
American Society for Nutrition  
American Society for Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics  
American Society for Preventive Cardiology  
American Society for Radiation Oncology  
American Society for Reproductive Medicine  
American Society of Clinical Oncology  
American Society of Hematology  
American Society of Human Genetics  
American Society of Nephrology  
American Society of Neurorehabilitation (ASNR)  
American Society of Pediatric Nephrology  
American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses  
American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene  
American Sociological Association  
American Thoracic Society  
American Urogynecologic Society  
amfAR - The Foundation for AIDS Research  
Angioma Alliance  
Arthritis Foundation  
Association for Clinical and Translational Science  
Association for Patient-Oriented Research  
Association for Prevention Teaching and Research  
Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC)  
Association for Psychological Science  
Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology  
Association of Academic Health Centers

Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries  
Association of American Cancer Institutes  
Association of American Universities  
Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges  
Association of Community Health Nursing Educators  
Association of Departments of Family Medicine  
Association of Family Medicine Residency Directors  
Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs  
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs  
Association of Minority Health Professions Schools  
Association of Nutrition Services Agencies  
Association of Organ Procurement Organizations (AOPO)  
Association of Population Centers  
Association of Public Health Laboratories  
Association of Rehabilitation Nurses  
Association of Schools of Allied Health Professions  
Association of Schools of Public Health  
Association of State & Territorial Health Officials  
Association of State & Territorial Public Health Nutrition Directors  
Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors  
Association of University Centers on Disabilities  
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses  
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America  
Autism Society  
Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law  
Benign Essential Blepharospasm Research Foundation  
Biophysical Society  
Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network (BCAN)  
Boston Public Health Commission  
Boys Town National Research Hospital  
CADASIL - Together We Have Hope  
California Association of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselors  
California Center for Public Health Advocacy  
California Foundation for the Advancement of Addiction Professionals  
California Institute for Mental Health  
Campaign for Public Health  
Cardio-Facio-Cutaneous International  
CDC Coalition  
Center for Oral Health  
Center for Science in the Public Interest  
CETPA, Inc.  
Charlene Miers Foundation for Cancer Research  
Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science  
Chicago House and Social Service Agency  
Chicago Recovery Alliance  
Child Neurology Society  
Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (CHADD)  
Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation  
Clinical Research Forum  
Clinical Social Work Association

Coalition for Health Funding  
Coalition for Health Services Research  
Coalition for Imaging and Bioengineering Research  
Coalition for the Advancement of Health Through Behavioral and Social Sciences Research(CAHT-BSSR)  
Coalition for the Life Sciences  
Coalition of Heritable Disorders of Connective Tissue  
Coalition to Promote Research (CPR)  
Colorectal Cancer Coalition  
Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service  
CommonHealth ACTION  
Community Access National Network  
Community Servings, Inc.  
Community-Campus Partnerships for Health  
Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia Research, Education and Support (CARES) Foundation, Inc.  
Connecticut Certification Board  
Consortium of Social Science Associations  
Cooley's Anemia Foundation  
COPD Foundation  
Corporation for Supportive Housing  
Council of Accredited MPH Programs  
Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists  
Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America  
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation  
Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation  
DBS Voices of the Rockies  
Defeat Diabetes Foundation  
Dental Hygienists' Association of the State of New York  
Detroit Medical Reserve Corps  
Digestive Disease National Coalition  
Directors of Health Promotion and Education  
DNDi NA - Drugs for Neglected Diseases *initiative* North America  
Dystonia Advocacy Network  
Dystonia Medical Research Foundation  
Easter Seals  
Eat Smart, Move More South Carolina  
Elyria City Health District  
Emergency Nurses Association  
Emory Alzheimer's Disease Research Center, Emory University  
Empire Project for Oral Health  
Epilepsy Foundation  
Fabry Support & Information Group  
Faces & Voices of Recovery  
Family Care Council Area 8  
Family Violence Prevention Fund  
Family Voices  
FasterCures  
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology  
Federation of Associations in Behavioral & Brain Sciences  
Foundation for Biomedical Research  
Foundation of the National Lipid Association

Friends of AHRQ  
Friends of Cancer Research  
Friends of NCHS  
Friends of SAMHSA  
Friends of the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (FNIDCR)  
Genetic Alliance  
Genetic Alliance Registry and BioBank  
Genetics Policy Institute  
Geoffrey Beene Foundation Alzheimer's Initiative  
Gerontological Society of America  
Global Justice Institute  
Health Professions and Nursing Education Coalition  
Health Professions Network  
HealthHIV  
Heart Rhythm Society  
Hepatitis B Foundation  
Hepatitis Foundation International  
HHT Foundation International  
Hispanic Dental Association (HDA)  
Hispanic-Serving Health Professions Schools (HSHPS)  
HIV Medicine Association  
HIV Prevention Justice Alliance  
Howard University Health Sciences  
Human Rights Campaign  
Illinois Maternal and Child Health Coalition  
Illinois Public Health Association  
In Need Of Diagnosis, Inc. (INOD)  
Indiana Rural Health Association  
Infectious Diseases Society of America  
Institute for Public Health Innovation  
Institute of Social Medicine and Community Health  
InterAmerican Heart Foundation  
Intercultural Cancer Council Caucus  
International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium  
International Essential Tremor Foundation  
International Foundation for Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders  
International Myeloma Foundation  
Interstitial Cystitis Association  
Intracranial Hypertension Research Foundation  
Jacob's Cure  
Jeffrey Modell Foundation  
Jewish Women International  
Kakkis EveryLife Foundation  
Kids That Care Pediatric & Cancer Fund  
Kids With Heart National Association for Children's Heart Disorders, Inc.  
Kirby Marketing Solutions  
Latino Coalition for a Healthy California  
League of United Latin American Citizens  
Learning Disabilities Association of America  
LIVESTRONG

Local Government Commission  
Lung Cancer Circle of Hope  
Lupus Research Institute  
Lymphangiomatosis & Gorham's Disease Alliance  
March of Dimes Foundation  
Medical Library Association  
Medicines for Malaria Venture  
Meharry Medical College  
Mental Health America  
Mesothelioma Applied Research Foundation  
Metropolitan Community Churches  
Metropolitan Latino AIDS Coalition (MLAC)  
Missouri Association of Local Public Health Agencies  
MLD Foundation  
Morehouse School of Medicine  
NAADAC, The Association for Addiction Professionals  
Narcolepsy Network, Inc.  
Nashville CARES, Nashville, Tenn.  
National AHEC Organization  
National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research  
National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors  
National Alliance on Mental Illness  
National Alopecia Areata Foundation  
National Association for Biomedical Research  
National Association for Children's Behavioral Health  
National Association for Geriatric Education  
National Association for Public Health Statistics and Information Systems  
National Association for Sport and Physical Education  
National Association of Chronic Disease Directors  
National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists  
National Association of County and City Health Officials  
National Association of County Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability Disorders  
National Association of Geriatric Education Centers  
National Association of Local Boards of Health  
National Association of Medical Minority Educators, Inc. (NAMME)  
National Association of People with AIDS (NAPWA)  
National Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems  
National Association of Social Workers  
National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors  
National Association of State Head Injury Administrators  
National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors  
National Black Nurses Association  
National Business Group on Health  
National Coalition for Cancer Research (NCCR)  
National Coalition for LGBT Health  
National Coalition for Osteoporosis and Related Bone Diseases  
National Coalition of STD Directors  
National Complete Streets Coalition  
National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare  
National Council of Jewish Women

National Council of Women's Organizations  
National Council on Diversity in the Health Professions  
National Disability Rights Network  
National Empowerment Center  
National Fabry Disease Foundation (NFDF)  
National Family Planning and Reproductive Health Association  
National Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health  
National Forum for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention  
National Gaucher Foundation  
National Health Care for the Homeless Council  
National Health Council  
National Hispanic Medical Association  
National Kidney Foundation  
National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health  
National Latino Behavioral Health Association  
National League for Nursing  
National LGBT Cancer Network  
National Lipid Association  
National Lung Cancer Partnership  
National Marfan Foundation  
National Minority AIDS Council  
National Multiple Sclerosis Society  
National Network of Health Career Programs in Two-Year Colleges (NN2)  
National Network of Public Health Institutes  
National Nursing Centers Consortium  
National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD)  
National Organization for Women  
National Osteoporosis Foundation  
National Patient Advocate Foundation  
National Psoriasis Foundation  
National Rural Health Association  
National Spinal Cord Injury Association  
National Student Nurses' Association, Inc.  
National Tay-Sachs & Allied Diseases Association, Inc.  
National Urea Cycle Disorders Foundation  
National Women's Health Network  
Nebraska AIDS Project, Omaha, Neb.  
Nevada Cancer Institute  
New York State Public Health Association  
New York Stem Cell Foundation  
North American Primary Care Research Group  
North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition  
Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine  
Northeastern Ohio Universities Colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy  
Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs (NOVA)  
Oncology Nursing Society  
One Voice Against Cancer  
Oral Health America  
Oral Health Kansas, Inc.

Oregon Public Health Institute  
Osteogenesis Imperfecta Foundation  
Ottawaquechee Community Partnership  
Pancreatic Cancer Action Network  
Parkinson's Action Network  
Partnership for Prevention  
Pediatric AIDS Chicago Prevention Initiative  
Pediatric Stroke Network, Inc.  
Physician Assistant Education Association  
PKD Foundation  
Planned Parenthood Federation of America  
Population Association of America  
Prevent Blindness America  
Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association  
Primary Ciliary Dyskinesia Foundation  
Project DOCC - Delivery of Chronic Care  
Project Inform (San Francisco)  
Project Open Hand, San Francisco  
Public Health - Seattle & King County  
Public Health Institute  
Pulmonary Hypertension Association  
Purine Research Society  
PXE International  
Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities Coalition  
Research!America  
RTI International  
Ryan White Medical Providers Coalition  
Safe States Alliance  
Sarcoma Foundation of America  
School of Medicine, University of California, Irvine  
School Social Work Association of America  
Scleroderma Foundation  
Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States (SIECUS)  
Shape Up America!  
Sjögren's Syndrome Foundation  
Sleep Research Society  
Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine  
Society for Clinical and Translational Science  
Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America  
Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine  
Society for Medical Decision Making  
Society for Neuroscience  
Society for Pediatric Research  
Society for Public Health Education  
Society for Women's Health Research  
Society of General Internal Medicine  
Society of Gynecologic Oncologists  
Society of Hospital Medicine  
Society of State Leaders of Health and Physical Education

Society of Teachers of Family Medicine  
SouthEastern African American Center of Excellence for Eliminating Disparities  
Spina Bifida Association  
Strata Various Product Design, Culver City, Cal.  
Sudden Arrhythmia Death Syndrome (SADS) Foundation  
Sudden Cardiac Arrest Association  
Texas Biomedical Research Institute  
Texas Society for Biomedical Research  
The AIDS Institute  
The American Brain Coalition  
The American Society for Cell Biology  
The Endocrine Society  
The Fay W. Boozman College of Public Health, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences  
The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society  
The LGBT Cancer Project - Out With Cancer  
The Miami Project to Cure Paralysis  
The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy  
The NephCure Foundation  
The Paget Foundation  
The SPARK Programs  
The Task Force for Global Health  
The TMJ Association, Ltd.  
Therapeutic Communities of America  
Total Health Awareness Team, Rockford, Ill.  
Tourette Syndrome Association, Inc.  
Treatment Access Expansion Project  
Treatment Action Group  
Trust for America's Health  
Turner Syndrome Foundation, Inc.  
U.S. Hereditary Angioedema Association  
U.S. Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association (USPRA)  
United Spinal Association  
University of Central Florida  
University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing  
Urban Coalition for HIV/AIDS Prevention Services (UCHAPS)  
VHL Family Alliance  
WalkSanDiego  
WomenHeart: The National Coalition for Women with Heart Disease  
YMCA of the USA