

April X, 2024

The Honorable Robert Aderholt
Chair
Subcommittee on Labor, Health & Human
Services, Education and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor, Health & Human
Services, Education and Related Agencies
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Dear Chair Aderholt and Ranking Member DeLauro:

Chronic diseases, such as heart disease, cancer, chronic lung diseases, stroke, Alzheimer's, and diabetes account for most deaths in the United States and globally and are the major drivers of sickness, disability, and account for over 86% of health care costs in the nation. They are responsible for seven out of 10 deaths among Americans each year, and they are the leading drivers of the nation's \$4.1 trillion in annual health care costs.

As Congress works to draft the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS) appropriations legislation for fiscal year (FY) 2025, the XX undersigned organizations request **\$11.581 billion for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)** which, together with its National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (NCCDPHP), works to prevent chronic diseases and promote health and wellness for all in communities throughout the nation.

Together, our organizations represent the 6 in 10 people in America—millions of patients and consumers—who face serious, acute, and chronic health conditions.¹ We have a unique perspective on what individuals and families need to prevent disease, cure illness, and manage chronic health conditions. Proven chronic disease interventions can be cost-effective in terms of longer life and better quality of life.

NCCDPHP promotes chronic disease prevention efforts in four key areas:

- Measuring how many Americans have chronic diseases or chronic disease risk factors.
- Improving environments to make it easier for people to make healthy choices.
- Strengthening health care systems to deliver prevention services that keep people well and diagnose diseases early.
- Connecting clinical services to community programs that help people prevent and manage their chronic diseases and conditions.

A robust CDC and NCCDPHP are essential to mitigating the increasing threat that chronic diseases pose to individuals living in America—including rising rates of obesity, tobacco use, alcohol use, and sedentary behavior. A robust investment, appropriate to the magnitude of the problem, will allow CDC and NCCDPHP to fulfill its mission by expanding the current patchwork of existing programs to all jurisdictions nationwide and address emerging health challenges.

Thank you for your consideration of our request, and we look forward to working with you to improve and protect health. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact Liz Ruth at lruth@chronicdisease.org at the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors.