## 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 <a href="mailto:eholubowich@dc-crd.com">eholubowich@dc-crd.com</a> 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

Ottauquechee 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