

July 25, 2025

Dear Chair Cole, Chair Collins, Vice Chair Murray, and Ranking Member DeLauro:

The 584 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 – urge you to continue your leadership in supporting families, communities, and local economies with a fiscal year (FY) 2026 allocation for the Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee that ensures these programs can meet vital needs. Following two years with tight statutory caps on non-defense discretionary funding, FY 2026 marks the first opportunity for Congress to make up for the cuts during that period while making a down payment on addressing urgent needs. We strongly believe the interim allocation for the House Labor-HHS-Education bill is inadequate, and call on the House and Senate Appropriations Committees to provide the Subcommittees with an FY 2026 allocation at a level that at least reverses past cuts to provide for the necessary services and programs this subcommittee oversees.

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, labor force participation, and economic productivity. However, these programs historically have been shortchanged in the appropriations process, especially after spending caps were first enacted in 2011 and then again under the caps for 2024 and 2025. At a time when it is unclear if the Administration plans to release the FY 2025 funding already enacted by Congress, and when Congress has just instituted cuts through the budget reconciliation process to health, education, and other areas funded by this bill, increased funding across the Labor-HHS-Education programs is necessary to address long-standing needs.

We also urge Congress to reject any efforts to restructure or reorganize federal agencies either through the appropriations process or unilateral administrative action. This includes codifying cuts to staff and programs unilaterally made by the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE). Instead, Congress must take a consensus-driven approach through proper authorizing committees that includes opportunity for public input. Additionally, Congress enacted laws that created and funded agencies and programs for specific purposes, and we urge Congress to insist that the Administration follow the law, release the funding Congress enacted, and provide the services required by statutes.

The need for these key investments is clear after they have been underfunded by billions of dollars in recent years as funding for essential services provided by the Labor-HHS-Education bill has not kept pace with population growth or inflation. The effects of chronic underfunding have impacted programs that support education, public health, health research, workforce development, and social services. The effects include:

- Eroding the public health and research infrastructure and workforce, limiting our ability to address disease prevention, respond to future health crises, and monitor ongoing health trends for new and emerging threats.
- Hindering efforts to address learning loss and opportunity gaps, to raise student achievement, to address shortages in the education workforce, and to increase high school graduation rates, college affordability, and college completion. The American public [supports more education funding](#), not less.
- Providing childcare to only one in nine eligible children under age 6, with childcare providers paid so little that one in four early childhood educators takes a second job to make ends meet

- Leaving far too many low-income children without access to high quality preschool and other early learning opportunities.
- Compounding on recent withholding of funding for lifesaving medical research, further distancing America from its longstanding global leadership in finding cures.
- Risking our ability to prepare for, monitor, and respond to public health threats that transcend international borders.
- Cutting efforts to adequately respond to ongoing opioid and fentanyl epidemics and infectious disease outbreaks, such as measles and tuberculosis. Reducing funding for mental health services, including services for children and for the homeless.
- Limiting workers' access to skills development and education opportunities necessary to access in-demand careers for which employers are currently hiring—a key contributing factor for why the nation's labor force participation rate remains at historic lows at a time when there are nearly two available jobs for every unemployed person. A declining labor force participation rate hinders America's economic growth and reduces U.S. competitiveness. Businesses are currently struggling to hire 7.4 million workers, which a sustained investment in workforce development is poised to address.
- 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 full participation in their communities.
- Providing inadequate resources to address mental health and reverse recent reductions of substance use overdoses in communities throughout the country.
- Inadequate funding for heating and cooling assistance, despite increased costs for families. The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), the federal program to help with residential energy costs, only has enough funding to serve 1 in 6 eligible households, with funding down from \$6.1 billion in FY 23 to \$4.1 billion for FY 25. Cooling assistance is particularly inadequate, despite cooling costs expected to rise to their highest levels in 12 years this summer, amid life-threatening heat waves.
- While Congress started to reverse Maternal and Child Health Block Grant funding losses, funding remained flat at about 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, has been flat-funded over the past few years, leaving it more than [27 percent](#) below the FY 2010 level, adjusted for inflation.

We urge you to commit to improving the lives of Americans by boosting the allocation for the Labor-HHS-Education bill for FY 2026 to provide vital services for the American public. Any additional cuts for FY 2026 will further undermine the future strength, economic vitality, and security of our nation. If you have questions about this letter, please contact:

- Sarah Abernathy, Committee for Education Funding (abernathy@cef.org);
- Meredith Dodson, Coalition on Human Needs (mdodson@chn.org);
- Eric Gascho, Coalition for Health Funding (egascho@dc-crd.com); or
- Gail Silberglied, Campaign to Invest in America's Workforce (SilbergliedG@nawb.org).

20/20 Vision

AACTE: American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education

AASA, The School Superintendents Association

ACA Consumer Advocacy

AcademyHealth

ACLU, NYACLU

ADAP Advocacy Association

ADHS Arizona State Hospital

Advance CTE

Advocates for Children of New York

African American Health Alliance

AFT, AFL-CIO

Afterschool Alliance

AGH

AIDS Action Baltimore

AIDS Alabama

AIDS Alliance for Women, Infants, Children, Youth & Families

AIDS Foundation Chicago

AIDS United

Alabama Arise

Alabama Association of School Psychologists

Alaska House Residents

Alaska School Psychologists Association

Alianza for Progress

All Our Kin

All4Ed

Alliance for Quality Education

Alpha-1 Foundation

American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology

American Academy of Pediatrics

American Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research

American Association of Colleges of Nursing

American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine

American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy

American Association of State Colleges and Universities

American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges

American Chiropractic Association

American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists

American College of Physicians

American Council on Education

American Dental Education Association

American Educational Research Association



COALITION *for*
HEALTH FUNDING



COALITION ON HUMAN NEEDS

American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)

American Foundation for Suicide Prevention

American Foundation for the Blind

American Friends Service Committee

American Heart Association

American Institute of Biological Sciences

American Library Association

American Lung Association

American Medical Women's Association

American Music Therapy Association

American Muslim Health Professionals (AMHP)

American Nurses Association

American Physiological Society

American Psychological Association Services

American Public Health Association

American School Counselor Association

American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics

American Society of Hematology

American Society of Nephrology

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association

American Statistical Association

Arizona Association of School Psychologists

Arizona Psychological Association

Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families

Arkansas Community Organizations

Arthritis Foundation

Asian Resources, Inc.

Association for Career and Technical Education

Association for Psychological Science

Association of American Cancer Institutes

Association of Assistive Technology Act Programs

Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs (AFOP)

Association of Immunization Managers

Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities

Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents

Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs

Association of Population Centers

Association of Psychologists in Academic Health Centers (APAHC)

Association of Public and Land-grant Universities

Association of Public Health Laboratories

Association of Rehabilitation Nurses

Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO)

Association of School Psychologists of Pennsylvania (ASPP)



COALITION *for*
HEALTH FUNDING



Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses

Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America (AAFA)

Autism Society of America

Autistic People of Color Fund

Autistic Self Advocacy Network

Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network

AVAC

BANANAS, Inc

Benedictine Univ. faculty

Bergen Volunteer Medical Initiative

Beyond Literacy

Big Cities Health Coalition

BLKHLTH

Bloomfield Central School District

Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center

Bread of Life Food Pantry

Breakthrough Collaborative

Brooklyn Center for the Independence of the Disabled

Buffalo Hearing and Speech Center

CAEAR Coalition

California Association of School Psychologists

California Child Care Resource & Referral Network

Cam-Held Ent Inc, Just Kids Diagnostic and Treatment Center

Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids

CancerCare

Cares of Southwest Michigan

Carteret Local Food Network

Cascade Veterinary Clinics

CASEL

Catawba Regional Council of Governments

Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Environmental Justice Ministry

Center for Independence of the Disabled, New York (CIDNY)

Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)

Center for Science in the Public Interest

Central Iowa Workforce Development Board

Cerebral Palsy Associations of New York State

Charlotte Trans Health

Chicago Jobs Council

Chicago Women Take Action

Chiefs for Change

Child Care Law Center

Child Neurology Foundation

Children Now



COALITION *for*
HEALTH FUNDING



COALITION ON HUMAN NEEDS

Children's Advocacy Institute
Children's Aid
Children's Defense Fund
Children's HealthWatch
Children's Trust Fund Alliance
CHURCH OF ST FRANCIS XAVIER
Citizens' Committee for Children of New York
Citizens Inn
Clover
COALITION FOR ASIAN AMERICAN CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
Coalition for Community Schools
Coalition for Health Funding
Coalition on Human Needs
Colorado Society of School Psychologists
Columbus House Inc
COMBINEDBrain
Commissioned Officers Association of the USPHS
Committee for Children
Committee for Education Funding (CEF)
Community Access National Network
COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM FOR CENTRAL ARKANSAS
Community Change Action
Community Mental Health Fund
Community Servings
Compass Affordable Housing
Compass LGBTQ Community Center
Compassion & Choices
Computer Science Teachers Association
Concord Counseling Services
Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, U.S. Provinces
Connecticut Association of School Psychologists
Consortium of Social Science Associations
Cooke School and Institute
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
Council on Social Work Education
Council on Undergraduate Research
Courage California
Cure KCNH1 Foundation
Dansville Central Schools



COALITION *for*
HEALTH FUNDING



COALITION ON HUMAN NEEDS

DC Action

Delaware Association of School Psychologists

Developmental and Epileptic Encephalopathy Project (DEE-P Connections)

Dignity in Schools Campaign - New York

Disability Law Center

Disability Rights Arizona

Disability Rights Center - NH Inc

Disability Rights Center of the Virgin Islands

Disability Rights Florida

Disability Rights Iowa

Disability Rights Maine

Disability Rights Michigan

Disability Rights Mississippi

Disability Rights Nebraska

Disability Rights New Jersey

Disability Rights New York

Disability Rights North Carolina

Disability Rights of WV

Disability Rights Pennsylvania

Disability Rights South Carolina

Diversity Center of Oklahoma Inc.

Dravet Syndrome Foundation

Drug Policy Alliance

Dyscalculia Services

E Pluribus Unum

East Boston Social Centers

Easterseals Inc.

eceteacher.org

EDGE Consulting Partners

EdTrust

Educare Network

Educational Theatre Association

Employment & Employer Services (E&ES)

Empower Missouri

Empowering Epilepsy

Endocrine Society

Epilepsy Alliance America

Epilepsy Foundation of America

Equitas Health

ESTHER

Families USA

Family Center of Washington County

Family Centered Treatment Foundation



COALITION *for*
HEALTH FUNDING



COALITION ON HUMAN NEEDS

Family Crisis Center
Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences
Five Horizons Health Services
Florida Association of School Psychologists
Food Bank of Northern Nevada
Food For All
Food Research & Action Center (FRAC)
Four Corners Rainbow Youth Center
Four County School Boards
FPWA
Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration
Fresh Youth Initiatives
Friends of Ruth B. swann Park
Full Plates Full Potential
Gaithersburg HELP
Georgia Advocacy Office
Georgia Association of School Psychologists
Gerontological Society of America
Good Samaritan Food Pantry
GreenTree Co-op Market
Grow Food Northampton
Hawai'i Association of School Psychologists
Health Action NM
Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS)
HealthHIV: National Coalition for LGBTQ Health
Healthy Teen Network
HealthyWomen
Hematology/Oncology Pharmacy Association
Higher Education Consortium of Special Education
Hildreth Institute
Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities
HIV Dental Alliance
HIV Medicine Association
HIV+Hepatitis Policy Institute
Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters, USA-JPIC
Hope for HIE
Hopelink
Hunger Free America
Hydrocephalus Association
Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Association
IC&RC
Idaho School Psychologist Association
Identity, Inc.



COALITION *for*
HEALTH FUNDING



iFoster
Illinois Alliance of Administrators of Special Education
Illinois School Psychologist Association
In the Public Interest
INCLUDEnyc
Indiana Association of School Psychologists
Indiana Coalition to End Sexual Assault
Infectious Diseases Society of America
Institute for Child Success
Iowa Association of School Psychologists
Iowa Psychological Association
Just Solutions
Justice & Beyond Louisiana
Kansas Association of School Psychologists
Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition
KARES Foundation
KCNQ2 Cure Alliance
Kentucky Association of Psychology in the Schools
Kidango
Kids Above All
KIPP Foundation
Klamath and Lake Community Action Services
Knowledge Alliance
L.I.A.N.D.D.
Lakeshore Foundation
Laytonville Healthy Start Community & Family Resource Center
LDA Georgia
LDA Minnesota
LDA of Illinois
LDA of NH/ NHLDA
League of Women Voters of St. Lawrence County NYS
Learning Disabilities Association of America
Learning Disabilities Association of MD
Learning Disabilities Association of New York State
Learning Disabilities Association of Texas
Learning Disabilities Association of Virginia
Learning Disabilities Association of Wisconsin
Leeway School
Legal Key Partnership for Health and Justice
Lexington school for the Deaf
Lincoln Families
LiveAbility
LiveWell Greenville



COALITION *for*
HEALTH FUNDING



COALITION ON HUMAN NEEDS

Long Beach Alliance for Clean Energy
Los Angeles Unified School District
Louisiana Partnership for Children and Families
Louisiana School Psychological Association
Lupus Foundation of America
Magnet Schools of America
Maine Association of School Psychologists (MASP)
March of Dimes
Marie Pense Center
Mark Schenker, Ph.D.
Mary House, Inc
Maryland School Psychologists' Association
Mass211
Massachusetts Action for Justice
Massachusetts School Psychologists Association
MassAHEC, UMass Chan Medical School
Maternal Mental Health Leadership Alliance
MCCOY (Marion County Commission on Youth)
McKinleyville Family Resource Center
Mental Health America
MEO
Metropolitan Family Services
Michigan Association of School Psychologists
Michigan Disability Rights Coalition
MidMichigan Community Health Services
Midwest Urban Strategies
Minnesota Psychological Association
Minnesota School Psychologists Association
Minnesota TRIO Association
Missouri Psychological Association
MistressMind Assemblies
MomsRising
Montana Conservation Corps
MontCo Anti-Hunger Network
Montgomeryprideunited8@gmail.com
NASTAD
National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd
National AHEC Organization
National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research
National Alliance for HIV Education and Workforce Development
National Alliance to End Sexual Violence
National Art Education Association
National Association for College Admission Counseling



COALITION *for*
HEALTH FUNDING



COALITION ON HUMAN NEEDS

National Association for Gifted Children
National Association for Music Education
National Association for Public Health Statistics and Information Systems (NAPHSIS)
National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities
National Association of Counsel for Children
National Association of County Human Services Administrators
National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS)
National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
National Association of Pupil Services Administrators
National Association of RSVP Directors
National Association of School Nurses
National Association of School Psychologists
National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP)
National Association of Social Workers
National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators
National Association of Workforce Boards (NAWB)
National Bleeding Disorders Foundation
National Board for Professional Teaching Standards
National Center for Families Learning
National Center for Learning Disabilities
National Center for Teacher Residencies
National Center on Adoption and Permanency
National Center on Domestic Violence, Trauma and Mental Health
National Coalition for the Homeless
National Coalition of STD Directors
National Consumer Law Center, on behalf of its low-income clients
National Council for Community and Education Partnerships
National Council of Jewish Women
National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM)
National Council on Aging
National Dance Education Organization
National Diaper Bank Network
National Disability Rights Network (NDRN)
National Education Association (NEA)
National Employment Law Project
National Family Planning & Reproductive Health Association
NATIONAL HEAD START ASSOCIATION
National Health Care for the Homeless Council
National Health Council
National High School Equivalency Program (HEP)/College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP)
Association
National Immigration Law Center
National Kidney Foundation



COALITION *for*
HEALTH FUNDING



National League for Nursing
National Multiple Sclerosis Society (NMSS)
National Network for Youth
National patient advocate foundation
National Prevention Science Coalition to Improve Lives
National PTA
National Resource Center on Domestic Violence
National Science Teaching Association
National Skills Coalition
National Urban League
National Working Positive Coalition
National Youth Employment Coalition (NN4Y)
Native American Disability Law Center
NBJC
NCDVTMH
Neighbor To Family Inc.
Neighborhood House
Neighborhood Improvement Association
Network Lobby for Catholic Social Justice
Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies
Nevada Association of School Psychologists
Nevada Psychological Association
New Jersey Association of School Psychologists
New Jersey Public Health Association
New Mexico Association of School Psychologists
New York Association of School Psychologists
New York Center for Child Development
New York Center for Infants and Toddlers
New York Immigration Coalition
NMAC
North Carolina Psychological Association
North Central WI AHEC
North Dakota Association of School Psychologists
North Dakota Protection & Advocacy Project
NorthWest Initiative
Northwest Oregon Works
NREA
NYS Alliance for Children with Special Needs
Oacac headstart
Oakland LGBTQ Community Ctr.
Ohio Alliance Solutions
Oklahoma Policy Institute
On The Move



COALITION *for*
HEALTH FUNDING



One Day At A Time Gift Shop
one-n-ten
Optimal Interpreters and Translators LLC
Oregon AHEC
Oregon School Psychologist Association
Oregon Workforce Partnership
Over 60 Club Inc
PA Education Association
Pacific Northwest College Pathways
Parent Voices, California
Parents as Teachers National Center
Partners Against Mortality in Epilepsy (PAME)
Partners for Rural Impact
Partners In Health
Pediatric Epilepsy Research Consortium
Peer Voices United-Sacramento
People Power United
People's Action Institute
Phelan-McDermid Syndrome Foundation
Philly Neighborhood Networks (PNN)
Physicians for Social Responsibility
Pilot Rock Consulting
Placer Independent Resource Services
Planned Parenthood Federation of America
PlusInc
PrEP4All
Prevent Blindness
Prevention Institute
Pride Community Center of the Brazos Valley
Primary Care Development Corporation
Project Concern of Cudahy/St Francis
Public Advocacy for Kids (PAK)
Public Health Institute
Public Justice Center
Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation
Pulmonary Hypertension Association
Rebecca Schueller Training & Consulting
Refugee Council USA
Region 9 Head Start Association
Replate
RESULTS
RESULTS Iowa
RESULTS-Massachusetts



COALITION *for*
HEALTH FUNDING



Rhode Island KIDS COUNT Inc.
Rhode Island Psychological Association
Rockland County Pride Center
Rural Schools Association of New York
Ryan White Medical Providers Coalition
Safe & Sound
Safe States Alliance
San Diego East Region Family Strengthening Network
San Diego for Every Child
San Francisco AIDS Foundation
San Joaquin Pride Center
Save HIV Funding Campaign
School Social Work Association of America
SchoolHouse Connection
Service Employees International Union (SEIU)
Serving at-risk families everywhere, Inc.
Share the Wealth Productions
Shields for Families
Silver State Equality-Nevada
Sisters of St. Joseph Healthcare Foundation
SJRC Belong
Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America
Society for Neuroscience
Society for Public Health Education
Society of Behavioral Medicine
Society of Experimental Psychologists
Society of Women Engineers
South Carolina Association of School Psychologists
Southeast Alaska Food Bank
Southern AIDS Coalition
St Nicks Alliance
St Stephen Outreach CDC
St. Anthony's Food Pantry, Worcester MA
St. Paul's Charismatic Episcopal Church
State Council for Persons with Disabilities
Stavros Center for Independent Living
Stemilt Growers LLC
Student Association for STEM Advocacy
STXBP1 Foundation
Sunnyside Community Services
Susan G. Komen
TASH
Teach For America



COALITION *for*
HEALTH FUNDING



Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children (TED)

Tee Stock Pediatric OT

Texas Association of School Psychologists

The Advocacy Institute

The Arc of South Carolina

The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO)

the California Family Resource Association

the Child Abuse Prevention Center

The Child Center of NY

The Circle Keepers

The Family Conservancy

The Hagedorn Little Village School

The Illinois Psychological Association

The Institute for Human Services

The Montana Association of School Psychologists

The Porchlight Collective SAP

The Workers Circle

Tourette Association of America

Transcanwork

Transition Consults

Treatment Communities of America

Treehouse

TrueNorth Community Services

Trust for America's Health

Turning Point Inc.

UCSF

UMOS

United for Brownsville

United Scenic Artists Local USA 829 IATSE

United Way for Southeastern Michigan

United Way of Tompkins County

Unlimited Mind

Up Valley Family Centers of Napa County

Upper Montgomery Assistance Network

Upper Valley Food Co-op

Upper Westchester Muslim Society

Urban Education Network of Iowa

US PLHIV Caucus

UsAgainstAlzheimer's

Utah Association of School Psychologists

Valley Oak Children's Services

Village to Village Network

Virginia Academy of School Psychologists



COALITION *for*
HEALTH FUNDING



Vivent Health
Voices for Virginia's Children
Voices of Health Care Action
Voices of Hope Maryland
Voices of Hope, Inc.
VOR - A Voice of Reason
WA Assoc of Children and Families
Washington Defender Association
Washington Food Coalition
Washington State Association of School Psychologists
West Virginia School Psychologists Association
Western Indiana Workforce Development Board
Whispering Pines Preschool
Wisconsin School Psychologists Association
WNY R-AHEC
Workforce Development Board Chelan/Douglas Counties
Workforce Partnership
Wurzbacher and Associates
WV Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Wyoming School Psychology Association
WZA Consultant
YMCA of Greater New York
Youth and Women for Change in Eswatini
Youth First Justice Collaborative
Youth Law Center
YWCANEMA
YWHAG Research Foundation