

May 14, 2024

The Honorable Robert Aderholt  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, and Education  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin  
Chairwoman  
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, and Education  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, and Education  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, and Education  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairs Aderholt and Baldwin and Ranking Members DeLauro and Moore Capito:

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 85 undersigned organizations request that the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Social Determinants of Health program, within the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (NCCDPHP), be funded for at least \$100 million.**

The undersigned organizations ask Labor-HHS to build upon this investment to ensure that public health departments, academic institutions, and nonprofit organizations are properly supported to address the social determinants of health in their communities.

Now more than ever it is important to address the social, economic, and environmental conditions, including housing, employment, food security, transportation, and education, that contribute significantly to an individual's health outcomes over their lifetime and community health at-large. These non-medical drivers of health, collectively referred as the Social Determinants of Health (SDOH), are estimated to contribute 80-90% to a person's health outcomes, while traditional healthcare only accounts for 10-20%.<sup>1</sup>

Healthcare and public health sectors play unique, complementary roles in addressing health-related social needs. Payers and healthcare systems are increasingly recognizing the need to screen, identify, and make referrals to other organizations for individual patients' non-medical social needs. Healthcare systems need additional support to build community-clinical linkages and address patients' health related social needs. Health departments and public health organizations are uniquely situated to address the broader non-medical needs in communities by gathering data from multiple sources, identifying gaps in services, building collaborations across sectors (including with the healthcare sector) and with community-based organizations, and identifying

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<sup>1</sup> <https://nam.edu/social-determinants-of-health-101-for-health-care-five-plus-five/>

and addressing policies that inhibit overall health and well-being. By providing additional guidance, incentives, and frameworks, grantees can also mobilize to address the upstream factors of health that hospitals treat in individual patients.

To build the evidence base for future SDOH work, CDC evaluated existing multi-sector coalitions that are working to advance health equity through SDOH-centered solutions. In a first-year evaluation, CDC found that of 42 SDOH community partnerships evaluated, 90% of them contributed to community changes that promote healthy living.<sup>2</sup> Of the 29 partnerships that reported health outcomes data, their programs are projected to save \$644 million in medical and productivity costs over 20 years.<sup>3</sup>

A healthier, more resilient population and stronger economy require us to prevent and address the non-medical factors that cause increased healthcare costs and that put lives at risk. We thank you for your consideration of our FY2025 request to continue building up CDC's SDOH program. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact Madison West, Government Relations Manager at Trust for America's Health at [mwest@tfah.org](mailto:mwest@tfah.org).

Sincerely,

Access Care Anywhere  
AIDS Alabama  
America Walks  
American Association of Colleges of Nursing  
American Association of Heart Failure Nurses  
American Association on Health and Disability  
American College of Physicians  
American College of Preventive Medicine  
American Heart Association  
American Institute of Dental Public Health  
American Medical Women's Association  
American Physical Therapy Association  
American Physical Therapy Association of Minnesota  
American Public Health Association  
Association of SNAP Nutrition Education Administrators  
Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs  
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials  
BDS Healthy Aging Networks, Inc.  
Bethany Community Ministries, Inc.  
Bike Cleveland  
Brighter Beginnings

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.cdc.gov/chronicdisease/programs-impact/sdoh/pdf/GFF-eval-brief-508.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> *ibid*

Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids  
Cause Engagement Associates  
Center for Advocacy for the Rights and Interests of Elders  
(CARIE)  
Christian Council of Delmarva  
Common Threads  
Continual Care Solutions  
Cowise Consulting and Advisory  
Deborah's Place  
Epilepsy Foundation  
Fact Forward  
Gerontological Society of America  
Global Alliance for Behavioral Health and Social Justice  
Health by Design  
Health Care Without Harm  
Health Outreach Partners  
Health Resources in Action  
HealthyWomen  
Human Impact Partners  
Indiana Public Health Association  
Japanese American Citizens League  
Jump IN for Healthy Kids  
KCS1  
Kitsap Public Health District  
Lakeshore Foundation  
Ledge Light Health District  
Maine Public Health Association  
Maternal and Child Health Access  
Mel Leaman Free Clinic  
Mercalis  
National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors  
National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's  
Health  
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners  
National Association of Social Workers  
National Hispanic Health Foundation  
National League for Nursing  
National Network of Public Health Institutes  
National Nurse-Led Care Consortium  
National Recreation and Park Association  
New York State Public Health Association  
New Jersey Public Health Association  
Northern Nevada Public Health  
Partnership to End Addiction

Prevent Blindness Georgia  
Prevention Institute  
Public Health Solutions  
Redstone Global Center for Prevention and Wellness  
Society for Public Health Education  
Society for Social Work Leadership in Health Care  
Society of State Leaders of Health and Physical Education  
Strat  
Susan G. Komen  
Telosity Ventures  
The AIDS Institute  
The Center for Health Affairs (CHA) / CHAMPS Healthcare  
The Foundation for Sustainable Communities  
The Health Foundation, Inc.  
The Joy Labs  
The Praxis Project  
The Pride Center at Equality Park  
Trinity Alliance of the Capital Region, Inc.  
Trust for America's Health  
United Way of the Lakelands  
Visible Network Labs  
Voices of Hope, Inc.  
Wholespire, Inc.