April 20, 2015

The Honorable Harold Rogers
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nita Lowey
Ranking Member, Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman, Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and
Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member, Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and
Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Cc: Members, House Appropriations Committee and Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Subcommittee

The more than 670 undersigned organizations—representing the full range of stakeholders in the programs of the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services (HHS), and Education and related agencies—urge you to restore the Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 302(b) allocation for the Labor, HHS, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee to at least the FY 2010 level of $163.6 billion.

The programs and services administered by these Departments and agencies serve a broad range of constituencies and needs, but they all share a common, fundamental goal of strengthening this nation by improving Americans’ lives. Despite their profound impact on American health, child development, educational and skills attainment, and productivity, these programs and services have been cut by 12 percent ($21 billion) since FY 2010, adjusted for inflation. In real terms, FY 2015 is at its second lowest level since FY 2001—the only lower year being FY 2013 when sequestration’s across-the-board cuts took effect. These cuts are:

- Slowing scientific discovery in basic, biomedical, and health services research that prevents disease, improves health and curbs medical costs.
- Eroding the public health infrastructure and workforce, limiting our ability to respond to public health crises and monitor health trends for new and emerging threats.
- Hindering efforts to close troubling achievement gaps, raise overall student achievement, and increase high school graduation, college access and completion rates.
- Leaving far too many low-income children without access to high quality preschool and other early learning opportunities.
- Hindering efforts of our local employers to fill the approximately five million jobs in the U.S. because too many workers lack the necessary postsecondary education and credentials to fill these positions.
- Preventing almost one million citizens from accessing the critical workforce and job training services that Congress overwhelmingly authorized last year.
Without an increase in the 302(b) allocation, it will be virtually impossible to fund important new initiatives—such as combating antibiotic resistance and the opioid epidemic—or invest in proven programs—such as moving the federal share of funding for IDEA special education closer to the promised level of 40 percent, and providing resources to meet the health, safety and quality requirements established by the recent bipartisan Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) reauthorization—without deep cuts in other equally important initiatives.

We urge you to recognize the value of health, education, child development, social services, and job training and workforce development in improving the lives of American families and to restore the Labor, HHS, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee 302(b) allocation to at least the FY 2010 level of $163.6 billion. Even if funding is returned to $163.6 billion, that amount will have considerably less purchasing power than in FY 2010 after six years of inflation, population growth, and other rising costs.

If you have questions about this letter, please contact:

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Sincerely,

A & E Enterprise Management, LLC
A New Day, Inc.
A World Fit For Kids!
AASA, The School Superintendents Association
Academic Consortium for Integrative Medicine & Health
Academic Pediatric Association
Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
AcademyHealth
ACT for NIH: Advancing Cures Today
Administration of Resources and Choices of Arizona
Adult Learning Partners
Advocacy Center LA
Advocate Safehouse Project
African American Christian Foundation
African American Health Alliance
Afterschool Alliance
Age Well Senior Services
AIDS Alliance for Women, Infants, Children, Youth & Families
AIR
Alabaster
Alaska Association of School Business Officials
Alliance Against Domestic Abuse
Alliance for Aging Research
Alpha-1 Foundation
Alzheimer’s Association
American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing
American Academy of Family Physicians
American Academy of Nursing
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Academy of Physician Assistants
American Alliance of Museums
American Anthropological Association
American Association for Cancer Research
American Association for Dental Research
American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy
American Association for Respiratory Care
American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases
American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education
American Association of Colleges of Nursing
American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine
American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
American Association of Community Colleges
American Association of Kidney Patients
American Association of Nurse Practitioners
American Association of Occupational Health Nurses
American Association of Universities
American Association of University Women
American Association on Health and Disability
American Association of Nurse Practitioners
American Brain Coalition
American College of Clinical Pharmacy
American College of Physicians
American College of Preventive Medicine
American College of Rheumatology
American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American Council on Education
American Dance Therapy Association
American Dental Education Association
American Dental Hygienists’ Association
American Educational Research Association
American Federation of School Administrators
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees
American Federation of Teachers
American Geriatrics Society
American Heart Association
American Indian O.I.C.
American Institute for Medical & Biological Eng.
American Library Association
American Lung Association
American Medical Rehabilitation Providers Association
American Mental Health Counselors Association
American Music Therapy Association
American Nurses Association
American Optometric Association
American Organization of Nurse Executives
American Pediatric Society
American Pediatric Surgical Nurses Association
American Physiological Society
American Podiatric Medical Association
American Psychiatric Association
American Psychological Association
American Public Health Association
American School Counselor Association
American Sexual Health Association
American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy
American Society for Microbiology
American Society for Nutrition
American Society for Pain Management Nursing
American Society for Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics
American Society for Reproductive Medicine
American Society of Clinical Oncology
American Society of Hematology
American Society of Nephrology
American Society of Pediatric Nephrology
American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses
American Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene
American Sociological Association
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
American Thoracic Society
American Veterinary Medical Association
Amputee Coalition of America
AMT - The Association For Manufacturing Technology
Anna Marie's Alliance
Arizona State Impact Aid Association
Arlington Teen Network Board
Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization
ASCENT Recovery
Asian Neighborhood Design
Asian Services In Action
ASPIRE, Inc.
Association for Ambulatory Behavioral Healthcare
Association for Applied Psychophysiology and Biofeedback
Association for Career and Technical Education
Association for Clinical and Translational Science
Association for Prevention Teaching and Research
Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology
Association for Psychological Science
Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology
Association of Academic Physiatrists
Association of American Cancer Institutes
Association of American Medical Colleges
Association of American Universities
Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges
Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations
Association of Assistive Technology Act Programs
Association of Children's Museums
Association of Clinicians for the Underserved
Association of Departments of Family Medicine
Association of Family Medicine Residency Programs
Association of Educational Service Agencies
Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs
Association of Independent Research Institutes
Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities
Association of Jewish Family and Children's Agencies
Association of Maternal & Child Health Policy
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs
Association of Minority Health Professions Schools
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care
Association of Population Centers
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities
Association of Public Health Laboratories
Association of Rehabilitation Nurses
Association of Research Libraries
Association of School Business Officials International
Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials
Association of State Public Health Nutritionists
Association of University Centers on Disabilities
Association of Women’s Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses
AVAC
Baby Cafe USA
Baylor College of Medicine
Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corp.
Behavior Genetics Association
Being Alive Los Angeles
Benetech
Betty Griffin House
Biophysical Society
Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network
Blount County CAA
Blount County Health Department
Blue Faery: The Adrienne Wilson Liver Cancer Association
Bradley Angle
Brain Injury Association of America
Brooklyn Community Board 8
Brooklyn Rescue Mission
Buffalo Public Schools
CA4Health
California Association of Federally Impacted Schools
California Consortium of Addiction Programs and Professionals
California Public Health Association-North
California School Employees Association
CAMBA
Caminar Latino, Inc.
Capital Workforce Partners
Career Path Services
Case Western Reserve University
CATCH - Flaghouse
Catholic Charities
Catholic Guild for the Blind
C-Change
CDC Coalition
Cedars-Sinai
Center for Communications, Health & The Environment
Center for Science in the Public Interest
Center for Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Survivors
Center for Women Policy Studies
CEO
ChangeLab Solutions
Charlene Miers Foundation for Cancer Research
Chicago TechWorks
Child Welfare League of America
Childhood & Family Learning Foundation
Children's Cardiomyopathy Foundation
Children's Defense Fund
Children's Environmental Health Organization
Children's Hospital Association
Children's Mental Health Network
Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation
Churchill County School District
City Colleges of Chicago
City of St. Louis SLATE American Jobs Center
Coalition for Clinical and Translational Science
Coalition for Health Funding
Coalition for the Advancement of Health Through Behavioral and Social Sciences Research
Coalition for the Life Sciences
Coalition on Human Needs
Coalition to Promote Research
COBFC
Cognitive Science Society
Colorado TRIO Chapter of ASPIRE
Columbia CARES
Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service, Inc.
Common Sense Kids Action
Community Access National Network - CANN
Community Behavioral Health Association of Maryland
Community Servings
Connecticut Women's Education and Legal Fund
Consortium for Worker Education
Consortium of Social Science Associations
Consortium of Universities of the Washington Metropolitan Area
Consortium to Lower Obesity in Chicago Children at Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago
Cooley's Anemia Foundation
COPD Foundation
Cornell University
CoSN - the Consortium for School Networking
Council for Children with Behavioral Disorders
Council for Opportunity in Education
Council of Great City Schools
Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists
Council on Social Work Education
County of Kauai
Creighton University
Crisis Intervention Services
Foothill-De Anza Community College District, Occupational Training Institute
Friends of AHRQ
Friends of NCHS
Friends of the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research
Futures Without Violence
GBS/CIDP Foundation International
Genesee Dietetic Association
George Washington Cancer Institute
Gerontological Advance Practice Nurses Association
Goodwill Industries
Goodwill Industries of South Mississippi
Great Plains Association for College Admission Counseling
Green & Healthy Homes Initiative
Hadassah, The Women’s Zionist Organization of America, Inc.
Harm Reduction Coalition
Haven of Hope, Inc
Heal Thy Life
Healing Hearts & Families
Health & Medicine Policy Research Group
Health Professions Network
Healthcare Consortium of Illinois
HealthHIV
Healthy Teen Network
Heart Failure Society of America
Heartland Alliance
Hematology/Oncology Pharmacy Association
Hep B United
Hepatitis B Foundation
Hepatitis Foundation International
Higher Education Consortium for Special Education
Hispanic Dental Association
HIV Dental Alliance
HIV Medicine Association
Hostos Community College
Houston Area Women's Center
HPNA
Huntington's Disease Society of America
IC&RC
IDEA Infant Toddler Coordinators Association
IGA Nephropathy Foundation of America
Illinois Alcohol and Drug Dependence Association
Illinois Association for College Admission Counseling
Illinois Valley Safe House Alliance
Impact Schools of South Dakota
Indian Impact Schools of Montana
Individual
Infectious Diseases Society of America
International Essential Tremor Foundation
Interstitial Cystitis Association
Intracranial Hypertension Research Foundation
Iowa Association for College Admission Counseling
IUEC Local 131
Jackson State University
Jeffrey Modell Foundation
Jewish Vocational Service San Francisco
Job Path
Just-A-Start Corporation
Kentucky Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel
Kentucky Workforce Investment Board
Kirkwood Community College
LaGuardia Community College CUNY
Lakeshore Foundation
Learning Disabilities Association of America
Linda's Voice Foundation
Lone Star College System
Louisiana Public Health Association
LukeWorks, LLC
Lupus and Allied Diseases Association
Lupus Foundation of America
Lupus Foundation of Florida
Lupus Research Institute
Lutheran Services in America
Lutheran Services in America Disability Network
Magnet Schools of America
Mailman School of Public Health
Maine Educational Opportunity Association
MANA, A National Latina Organization
March of Dimes
Maryland Association for Adult Community and Continuing Education
Maryland Disability Law Center
Massachusetts Neuropsychological Society
Massachusetts Secondary School Administrators Association
Matanuska Susitna Borough School District
Mature Services, Inc.
M-CM Network
Meals on Wheels America
Meals on Wheels of Lehigh County
Medical College of Wisconsin
MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership
Meriden
Meriden-Wallingford Chrysalis
Mesothelioma Applied Research Foundation
Metropolitan Area Neighborhood Nutrition Alliance
Metropolitan Community Churches
Miami-Dade County Public Schools
Michigan Association for College Admission Counseling
Mid-America Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel
Mildred Elley School
Military Impacted Schools Association
Ministry Casa Agar
Minnesota Association for College Admission Counseling
Minnesota Workforce Council Association
Missouri Association of College Admission Counseling
Missouri Association of Local Public Health Agencies
MomsRising.org
Montgomery County Workforce Investment Board
Morehouse School of Medicine
Mosaic Resource Group, LLC
Movement is Life
MS Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Mutual Ground, Inc.
NAADAC, the Association for Addiction Professionals
NARRTC
Nashville CARES
National Able Network, Inc.
National AHEC Organization
National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research
National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors
National Alliance of State Prostate Cancer Coalitions
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Alliance on Mental Illness (Greenville)
National Alopecia Areata Foundation
National Association for Children's Behavioral Health
National Association for College Admission Counseling
National Association for Family Child Care
National Association for Geriatric Education
National Association For Hispanic Elderly
National Association for Music Education
National Association for Public Health Statistics and Information Systems
National Association for the Advancement of Orthotics and Prosthetics
National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth
National Association for the Education of Young Children
National Association of Area Agencies on Aging
National Association of Chronic Disease Directors
National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists
National Association of Community Health Centers
National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities
National Association of County and City Health Officials
National Association of County Human Services Administrators
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of Federally Impacted Schools
National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health
National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National Association of Private Special Education Centers
National Association of RSVP Directors
National Association of School Psychologists
National Association of Social Workers
National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors
National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium (NASDCTEc)
National Association of State Directors of Special Education
National Association of State Head Injury Administrators
National Association of State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs (NASOP)
National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities
National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators
National Association of Workforce Boards
National Association of Workforce Development Professionals
National Board for Certified Counselors
National Center for Healthy Housing
National Center for Homeopathy
National Child Abuse Coalition
National Child Support Enforcement Association
National Coalition for Cancer Research
National Coalition for LGBT Health
National College Transition Network, World Education
National Council for Adult Learning
National Council for Behavioral Health
National Council for Community and Education Partnerships
National Council for Diversity in the Health Professions
National Council of La Raza
National Council of State Directors of Adult Education
National Council on Aging
National Disability Rights Network
National Education Association
National Employment Law Project
National Health Care for the Homeless Council
National Hemophilia Foundation
National Hispanic Medical Association
National Indian Impacted Schools Association
National Kidney Foundation
National Latin@ Network; Casa de Esperanza
National League for Nursing
National Multiple Sclerosis Society
National Network for Youth
National Network of Health Career Programs in Two Year Colleges
National Network of Public Health Institutes
National Network to End Domestic Violence
National Nursing Centers Consortium
National Parent Teacher Association
National Patient Advocate Foundation
National Psoriasis Foundation
National Respite Coalition
National Rural Education Advocacy Coalition
National Rural Education Association
National Skills Coalition
National Superintendents Roundtable
National Title I Association
National Urban League
National Violence Prevention Network
National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable
National Women's Law Center
National Writing Project
National Youth Employment Coalition
ND Protection & Advocacy Project
Nemours Children's Health System
NephCure Kidney International
New England Educational Opportunity Association
New Hampshire Educational Opportunity Association
New Haven Manufacturers Association
New Jersey Association for College Admission Counseling
New Jersey Association on Correction
New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association
New York City Employment and Training Coalition
NJ Council of County Vocational-Technical Schools
North American Neuro-Ophthalmology Society
Population Association of America
Population Institute
Positive Women's Network - USA
Potomac and Chesapeake Association for College Admission Counseling
Pozitively Healthy
President Plumbers Local 55
Pretty Good Consulting, Inc.
Prevent Blindness
Prevent Cancer Foundation
Project Inform
Project Renewal
ProLiteracy
Protection and Advocacy for People with Disabilities, Inc.
Public Health Institute
Pulmonary Hypertension Association
Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities Coalition
Real Food for Kids - Montgomery
Red Circle Wellness
Research!America
RESPONSE
RESULTS
RI Educational Opportunity Association
Rocky Mountain Association for College Admission Counseling
Rosie's Place
Ryan White Medical Providers Coalition
S.H.A.R.E., Inc.
Safe Horizon
Safe Nest
Safe States Alliance
SAGE
San Jose State University
Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law
School Social Work Association of America
Scleroderma Foundation
Self-Directed Choices
Senior Services for South Sound
Serenity, Inc.
SER-Jobs for Progress National Inc.
Service Employees International Union
Sexuality Information and Education Council of the U.S.
Shape Up America!
Shoreline USD
Sjogren's Syndrome Foundation
Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology
Society for General Internal Medicine
Society for Investigative Dermatology
Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine
Society for Neuroscience
Society for Pediatric Research
Society for Psychophysiological Research
Society for Public Health Education
Society for Text and Discourse
Society for Women's Health Research
Society of General Internal Medicine
Society of Teachers of Family Medicine
Southeastern Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel
Southern Association for College Admissions Counseling
Spina Bifida Association
St. Louis Agency on Training and Employment
St. Paul Community Literacy Consortium
Success for Youth (WIA Youth)
Swedish Health Services
Symbol Training Institute
Teach For America
Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children
Teknimedia Corporation
Telamon Corporation
Texas Association for College Admission Counseling
The Actors Fund
The Advocacy Institute
The AIDS Institute
The American Aging Association
The American Society for Cell Biology
The Arc
The Cave Institute
The Clinical Research Forum
The Corps Network
The George Washington University Cancer Institute
The Global Justice Institute
The Hepatitis B Foundation
The Jewish Federations of North America
The Marfan Foundation
The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy
The Ohio State University
The Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America
The State University of New York
The Sturge-Weber Foundation
The University of North Carolina at Wilmington
The Women's Center
Tourette Syndrome Association
Tradeswomen Inc.
TRIO-Alabama Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel
Trust for America's Health
Tulane University School of Medicine
U.S. Hereditary Angioedema Association
UMBC University Health Services
UNCF (United Negro College Fund)
Unite 2 Fight Paralysis
United Brotherhood of Carpenters, local 157
United Network for Organ Sharing
United States Breastfeeding Committee
United States Student Association
United Way of Central Iowa
University of Cincinnati
University of Massachusetts Medical School
University of Michigan
University of Missouri System
University of New Mexico
University of Oregon
University of Rochester
University of South Florida
University of Virginia
Urban Resource Institute
USAgainstAlzheimer's
Vermont Educational Opportunity Programs
Vocehab Vermont
Washington State Impact Aid Association
Wayne County Workforce Development
West Suburban Jobs Council
Western Association for College Admission Counseling
Wisconsin Association for College Admissions Counseling
Women Build Too Education and Trades Foundation
Women Helping Women
Women In Transition
Women's Center & Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh
Workforce Solutions Group
Worksystems
YMCA of the USA
Young Invincibles