

January 26, 2007

The Honorable Robert C. Byrd
Chairman
Senate Committee on Appropriations
SH-311 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Thad Cochran
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Appropriations
SD-113 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable David Obey
Chairman
House of Representatives Committee on
Appropriations
2314 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jerry Lewis
Ranking Member
House of Representatives Committee on
Appropriations
2112 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: HIV/AIDS Program Requests for the FY 2007 Joint Resolution

Dear Chairman Byrd, Ranking Member Cochran, Chairman Obey, and Ranking Member Lewis,

The undersigned organizations urge you to support increased funding levels for domestic HIV/AIDS programs in the FY 2007 joint funding resolution that is currently being drafted. A chart containing a detailed description of our requests for these programs is included in this letter. We urge you to address the many vital funding needs of HIV/AIDS programs including The Ryan White CARE Act and the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP), HIV/AIDS programs at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS Act (HOPWA), and HIV/AIDS research at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). As the HIV epidemic continues to grow in communities of color we must also ask for an increase in the Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI), funded since FY 1998 across all programs of the HIV portfolio.

Funding concerns of critical importance to HIV Community are the following:

- Ryan White CARE Act:** The Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Modernization Act, the bill that reauthorized the Ryan White CARE Act, (PL 109-415) passed the House and Senate with strong bipartisan support and was subsequently signed into law. The compromises agreed to in this bill were contingent upon an increase of appropriations for the program, specifically \$70 million to the Title II base which provides funds to states for primary care and support services. The community also believes it is critical to increase ADAP by at least \$55 million to provide treatment to the growing number of people relying on ADAP for lifesaving medication. The other components of the CARE Act must also receive appropriation levels higher than FY 2006 to ensure that this critical program continues to provide services to low-income people living with HIV/AIDS. We strongly believe that Congress must support a minimum \$18.7 million increase in Title I to fund the five new jurisdictions included in the reauthorized CARE Act, \$25 million for Title III programs, \$1.5 million for Title IV programs, \$.5 million for AIDS Education and Training Centers (AETCs), and \$.5 million for the Dental Program.

- **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Division of HIV/AIDS:** HIV prevention funding has faced budget cuts totaling \$25 million over the past three fiscal years. In those same three years 120,000 people have become infected with HIV and the number of annual new infections in the United States has steadily remained at 40,000. To sufficiently fund new testing initiatives and to provide comprehensive HIV prevention programs, CDC prevention funding must be increased by at least \$88.5 million.
- **Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA):** HOPWA provides housing assistance to thousands of individuals living with HIV/AIDS and their families. We request an increase of \$14 million to these programs which are critical in maintaining the health of persons living with HIV/AIDS. If the \$14 million requested increase for HOPWA is not enacted in FY 2007, 3,500 fewer people with AIDS (and their families) will receive housing assistance than in FY 2006.
- **National Institutes of Health:** If the United States is to remain the global leader in HIV/AIDS research for better drug therapies, evidence-based behavioral and biomedical prevention interventions, and vaccines, we must adequately invest in the National Institutes of Health. We encourage you to increase NIH funding from FY 2006 levels. Continuing flat funding for the NIH will have adverse effects on the proportion of investigator initiated research applications, drive down the number of new full-time scientists committed to a career in NIH funded research, and ultimately undermine the United States biomedical research enterprise.

Since it has been announced that the FY 2007 joint resolution will not be a simple flat funded FY 2006 continuing resolution, we hope that you can make the necessary adjustments to adequately fund HIV/AIDS programs in 2007. We recommend discontinuing funding for the Community-Based Abstinence Education grant program in order to support more vital needs, such as those mentioned above. We thank you for your continued support of these HIV programs which provide life saving prevention, care, treatment and support to the many people living with HIV/AIDS in the United States.

Sincerely,

American Academy of HIV Medicine
 ACT Up Philadelphia
 Advocates for Youth
 African American Health Alliance
 AIDS Action Baltimore, Inc.
 AIDS Action Committee of Massachusetts
 AIDS Action Council
 AIDS Alliance for Children, Youth & Families
 AIDS Foundation of Chicago
 AIDS Project Los Angeles
 AIDS Taskforce of Greater Cleveland
 AIDS Vaccine Advocacy Coalition
 American Dental Education Association
 amFAR – Foundation for AIDS Research
 Asian and Pacific Islander American Health forum – San Francisco, CA
 Asian and Pacific Islander American Health forum – Washington D.C.
 Foundation for Integrative AIDS Research

CAEAR Coalition
Community HIV/AIDS Mobilization Project
Gay Men's Health Crisis
HIVictorious Inc.
Housing Works
Human Rights Campaign
Legacy Community Health Services
Lifelong AIDS Alliance
Nashville CARES
National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors
National Association of County and City Health Officials
National Association of People with AIDS
National Minority AIDS Council
New York AIDS Coalition
New York State Black Gay Network
OPTIONS
Project Inform
Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States
The AIDS Institute
The Whitman-Walker Clinic, Washington D.C.

cc: Speaker Nancy Pelosi
Rep. Steny Hoyer
Rep. John Boehner
Rep. James Clyburn
Rep. Roy Blunt
Sen. Harry Reid
Sen. Mitch McConnell
Sen. Richard Durbin
Sen. Trent Lott
House Appropriations Committee
Senate Appropriations Committee

FY 2007 Appropriations for Federal HIV/AIDS Programs

January 23, 2007

*(Increases or decreases from previous fiscal year are shown in parentheses;
fiscal year 2007 requests reflect increase over FY 2006)*

<i>PROGRAM</i>	FY 2005 Final¹	FY 2006 Final²	FY 2007 President's Budget Request	FY 2007 House	FY 2007 Senate	FY 2007 Request for CR
HRSA: Ryan White CARE Act Total	\$2,048 m (+ \$28.21 m)	\$2,038 m (- \$10 m)	\$2,133.m (+ \$95 m)	\$2,108 m (+\$70 m)	\$2,114 m (+76.4 m)	\$2,218.2 m (+ \$171.2m)
Title I	\$610.1 m (- \$4.92 m)	\$604 m (- \$6.1 m)	\$604 m (+ 0 m)	\$604 m (+ 0 m)	\$606 m (+ \$2m)	\$632 m (+\$18.7m)
Title II: Care	\$334.3 m (- \$2.73 m)	\$331 m (- \$3.3 m)	\$401 m ³ (+\$70.0 m)	\$401 m (+\$70 m)	\$346 m ³ (+ \$15 m)	\$401 m (+\$70m)
Title II: ADAP	\$787.5 m (+ \$38.41 m)	\$789.5 m (+ \$2.2 m)	\$789.5 m (+ 0 m)	\$789.5 m (+ 0 m)	\$844.5 m (+ \$55 m)	\$844.5m (+\$55m)
Title III	\$195.6 m (- \$1.6 m)	\$193.6 m (- \$2.0 m)	\$218.6 m ⁴ (+ \$25m)	\$193.6 m (+ 0 m)	\$195.5 m (+ \$1.9 m)	\$218.6 m (+\$25m)
Title IV	\$72.53 m (- \$0.58 m)	\$71.8 m (- \$0.73 m)	\$71.8 m (+ 0 m)	\$71.8 m (+ 0 m)	\$73.3 m (+ \$1.5 m)	\$73.3m (+\$1.5m)
Part F: AETCs	\$35.06 m (- \$0.28 m)	\$34.7 m (- \$0.36 m)	\$34.7 m (+ 0 m)	\$34.7 m (+ 0 m)	\$35.2 m (+ \$0.5 m)	\$35.2m (+\$0.5m)
Part F: Dental	\$13.22 m (- \$0.11 m)	\$13.1 m (- \$0.12 m)	\$13.1 m (+ 0 m)	\$13.1 m (+ 0 m)	\$13.6 m (+ \$0.5 m)	\$13.6 m (+ \$0.5m)
CDC: HIV Prevention & Surveillance	\$662.3 m (- \$5.6 m)	\$651.1 m (- \$11.2 m)	\$739.6 m (+ \$88.5 m)	\$706.3 m (+\$55.2 m)	\$675.9 m (+\$24.8 m)	\$739.6m (+\$88.5m)
HUD: HOPWA	\$281.8 m (- \$13.1 m)	\$286.1 m (+ \$4.3 m)	\$300.1 m (+ \$14 m)	\$300.1 m (+14 m)	\$295 m (+ \$8.8 m)	\$300.1m (+\$14m)

1 The Omnibus FY 05 Appropriations bill calls for an across the board 0.8% rescission and is reflected in these figures

2 The FY 06 Appropriations bill calls for an across the board 1% rescission and is reflected in these figures

3 The Administration has proposed an additional \$70 million for AIDS care and treatment to be distributed at the discretion of the Secretary; the House approved the increase however not the discretionary aspect of it. The Senate approved \$15 million and allows Secretarial discretion.

4 The Administration proposed a \$25 million increase in Title III for outreach efforts for CBOs and faith-based groups.