Re: Saving HIV funding and saving lives in FY25 appropriations

Dear Chair Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

The undersigned 194 organizations urge you to protect and expand essential domestic funding for HIV care, treatment, and prevention. Specifically, we are asking you to do everything in your power to reject proposed cuts to HIV programming in the FY25 House LHHS appropriations bill and instead work to expand HIV funding levels. We also request that you support and expand HOPWA funding in the FY25 THUD bill.

The House LHHS appropriations subcommittee has proposed extreme cuts of hundreds of millions of dollars to HIV programs for FY25, threatening to eliminate the bipartisan Ending the HIV Epidemic initiative, slashing essential funding for the Ryan White program that ensures the health and well-being of people living with HIV in communities across the country, and cutting funds from the Minority AIDS Initiative that works to address HIV-related health disparities.

These threats to critical HIV services are unacceptable. Federal funding has supported treatment access for at least half a million Americans living with HIV, contributing to a 25% decline in HIV-related deaths between 2018 and 2022. Domestic HIV prevention efforts have accelerated with President Barack Obama’s establishment of the first National HIV/AIDS Strategy in 2010 and the announcement of the Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) initiative by President Donald Trump in 2019, resulting in a 12% reduction in new HIV transmissions since 2018 and an even more impressive 21% reduction in the jurisdictions prioritized by the EHE initiative. Much of this progress occurred among young people aged 13 to 24 who experienced a 30% decrease. Along with recent calls from President Biden for a National PrEP Program to amplify EHE efforts, the highly impactful CDC-funded Take Me Home at home HIV testing initiative, and exciting new long-acting treatment and prevention options, we can finally bring the epidemic under control for all American communities.

In contrast, a drastic cut to domestic funding would put our progress at risk and jeopardize the health of people living with HIV and vulnerable to HIV in the U.S., with a disproportionate impact on people living in the South who saw more than half of the total new HIV diagnoses in the US in 2022. Black and Hispanic/Latino communities continue to bear the brunt of the epidemic, making up more than 70% of estimated new HIV transmissions in 2022. Among new diagnoses in women in 2022, over half occurred in Black women; and between 2018 and 2022 transgender women saw a 25% increase in new diagnoses.
Historic progress in reducing new transmissions among people who inject drugs continues to be under threat, with a 7% increase in new diagnoses among men who inject. Supporting and expanding HIV funding will preserve the wins we have made and ensure that every community in America benefits from innovations in prevention, testing, and treatment.

Turning our back on HIV funding will be costly for America. Every new HIV transmission in the U.S. creates $501,000 in lifetime healthcare costs. An increase of just 2,000 new diagnoses in the U.S. will add billions in additional healthcare costs. Five thousand Americans still die from AIDS-related causes each year. Those numbers will grow if we cannot ensure ongoing funding for key support services.

**Please ensure that we fully fund our domestic anti-HIV efforts.** Our nation’s historic response to HIV/AIDS has been a bipartisan victory and a source of pride for Democrats and Republicans alike. It is an inspiring story of what can happen when we place politics aside and invest in scientific progress and compassionate services that open the door to effective treatment and prevention.

Sincerely,

PrEP4All

AVAC

HIV Medicine Association

Act Now: End AIDS (ANE) Coalition

ACT UP NY

ACR Health

ActionAIDS dba Action Wellness

Advocacy House Services, Inc.

Advocates for Youth

Agape Missions, NFP

AIDS Action Baltimore

AIDS Alabama

AIDS Alabama South

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

AIDS Foundation Chicago

AIDS Resource Alliance, Inc.

AIDS Treatment Activists Coalition

AIDS United

AJG Fund

Aliveness Project

Alliance Care 360

American Academy of HIV Medicine

American Psychological Association

American Sexual Health Association

Amida Care

APAIT

APLA Health

Appalachian Learning Initiative Inc.

AR Health

Argus Community, Inc.
Arianna’s Center
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care
Bedford Stuyvesant Family Health Center
BHASO
Birmingham AIDS Outreach
Black AIDS Institute
Black Women's Health Imperative
BOOM!Health
Boulder County AIDS Project
Building Healthy Online Communities
CAEAR Coalition
Callie Clinic
CARES of Southwest Michigan
CARES Sexual Wellness Services
Cascade AIDS Project
Center for HIV Law and Policy (CHLP)
CenterLink: The Community of LGBT Centers
Chicago House and Social Service Agency
Chicago Women's AIDS Project
Children and Youth Uganda
Christian Youth Volunteers Association Trust, Zimbabwe
Colorado Health Network
Colorado Organizations and Individuals Responding to HIV/AIDS (CORA)
Community Liver Alliance
Community Resource Initiative (CRI)
Compass LGBTQ Community Center
Consortium for the Advancement of Rights for Key Affected Populations (CARKAP)
Corktown Health
Decisive Minds
Drug Policy Alliance
Dune's LGBT Homeless Solutions Foundation
Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation
Empowerment Support Group
Equality Access to Health and Rights Initiative (EAHRI)
Equality California
Equitas Health
Erie Gay News
Fatty Liver Foundation
Fenway Health
Fifth Street Renaissance
Five Horizons Health Services
Food for Thought
Funders Concerned About AIDS
Galaei
Georgia AIDS Coalition
Georgia Equality
Great Chicago Smiles
Harbor Health Services Inc.
Harlem United
Health Services Center, Inc.
HealthHIV
Heartland Alliance Health
Henderson Equality Center
HEP
HER-Initiative(Rising Roses)
HIV + Hepatitis Policy Institute
HIV/AIDS Alliance of Michigan
HIV Dental Alliance
HIV/AIDS Alliance of Michigan
HIV+Aging Research Project-Palm Springs
Hope and Help Center of Central Florida, Inc.
Hope House of St. Croix Valley
Housing Works
Hyacinth Foundation
iHealth
Illinois Public Health Association
Imani Unidad, INC
In Our Own Voice: National Black Women's Reproductive Justice Agenda
Indiana Recovery Alliance
Interior AIDS Association
International Association of Providers of AIDS Care
Iris House Inc.
JSI
Korean Community Services of Metropolitan New York
Lansing Area AIDS Network
L'Arche Chicago
Latino Commission on AIDS
Latinos Salud
Let's Talk About It
Lilmesican Productions Inc
Long Valley Health Center
Marin County HHS
Medical Students for Choice
Multicultural AIDS Coalition
NASTAD
National Alliance for HIV Education and Workforce Development
National Association of County and City Health Officials
National Black Gay Men’s Advocacy Coalition
National Black Women’s HIV/AIDS Network
National Coalition for LGBTQ Health
National Coalition of STD Directors
National HIV/AIDS Housing Coalition
National Tuberculosis Coalition of America
National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable
National Working Positive Coalition
NMAC
North Shore Alliance of GLBTQ+ Youth (NAGLY)
Northeast Arkansas Regional AIDS Network
NYU Langone Hospitals - Tisch Hospital Clinical Labs
Oklahoma HIV Support Group
PA HIV Justice Alliance
Piedmont Care, Inc.
Pleasant Drive Animal Rescue
Poderosos
Positive Impact Health Centers
Positive People Network
Positive Women’s Network-Ohio
Positive Women's Network-USA
Positively Grateful
Prism Health North Texas
Proactive Community Services
Project RED Paint
Project Vida Inc.
PROMO Missouri
QLatinx
Reproductive Health Access Project
Ribbon - A Center for Excellence
Rural AIDS Action Network
SAGE
San Francisco AIDS Foundation
San Francisco Community Health Center
Selma AIR, Inc
Sero Project
Share and Care Charity
Shot in the Dark
SIECUS: Sex Ed for Social Change
Silver State Equality-Nevada
SisterLove, Inc.
Sisters of St. Dominic of Blauvelt, New York
SLK Health Services Corporation
Solutions NOT Punishment Collaborative, Inc.
Southern AIDS Coalition
Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation
Southern Nevada Asian Pacific Islander Queer Society
Southwest Center for HIV/AIDS
Southwest Recovery Alliance
Southwest Recovery Alliance (SWRA)
St. Mary's Mission Hospital
Support Persons in Trauma Initiative
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