

FRIENDS of the TITLE V MATERNAL and CHILD HEALTH SERVICES PROGRAM

c/o Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs
1825 K Street NW Suite 250, Washington, DC 20006 Tel: 202-775-0436

April 6, 2022

The Honorable Patty Murray
Chair
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education & Related Agencies
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Roy Blunt
Ranking Member
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education & Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chair
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education & Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education & Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Murray, Ranking Member Blunt, Chair DeLauro, and Ranking Member Cole:

As organizations dedicated to improving the health of all women, children, and families, we strongly urge you to support at least **\$1 billion for the Title V Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Services Block Grant in the FY2023 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education & Related Agencies Appropriations bill.**

The Title V MCH Block Grant is a cost-effective, accountable, and flexible funding source used to address the most critical, pressing, and unique needs of maternal and child health populations in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and other jurisdictions. State health departments use the Title V MCH Block Grant to design and implement a wide range of statewide and community-level maternal and child health programs to fit the needs of their specific populations. According to data gathered by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), *Title V MCH Block Grant funding provided access to health care and public health services for an estimated 60 million people in fiscal year 2020, including 93% of all pregnant people, 98% of infants, and 60% of children nationwide.*

While programming varies among states, areas of focus among Title V MCH programs include reducing maternal mortality, infant mortality, and preventable diseases among children; advancing health equity and eliminating racial, ethnic, and geographic inequities in maternal and child health outcomes; assuring access to quality maternal and child health services, especially for families with incomes below the federal poverty level or who live in areas with limited availability of health services; and promoting family-centered, community-based, coordinated care for children with special health care needs. Title V MCH Block Grant programs help train the next generation of maternal and child health workforce leaders and enable various stakeholders to address emerging public health concerns that

impact maternal and child health. These programs can ultimately save federal and state governments money by ensuring that people receive preventive services to avoid costlier chronic conditions later in life.

During the past two years, Title V-funded programs have been at the forefront of COVID-19 response efforts with a particular focus on addressing the unique impacts of the pandemic on maternal and child health populations. The flexible nature of the Title V MCH Block Grant made it an easily deployable source of support for states to meet locally identified needs and promote positive maternal and child health outcomes during the public health emergency. The Title V MCH Block Grant is well-positioned to continue to address maternal and child health needs in response to the ongoing physical and mental health ramifications of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, while the Title V MCH Block Grant is the backbone of our nation’s public health infrastructure for women, children, and families, that infrastructure has been severely strained as a result of the pandemic.

Maternal and child health programs and the maternal and child health workforce need sustained, increased investment to rebuild, recover, and best serve the nation’s maternal and child health populations now and into the future. We thank you for funding the Title V MCH Block Grant at \$747.7 million in FY2022 and **urge you to provide an increase to at least \$1 billion in FY2023, including a robust increase for the state formula fund.** For additional information on MCH programs in your state, please contact Amy Haddad at the Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs at 202-266-3045 or ahaddad@amchp.org.

Sincerely,

2020 Mom
Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
AcademyHealth
American College of Clinical Pharmacy
AIDS Alliance for Women, Infants, Children, Youth & Families
Alliance for Black NICU Families
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Association of Colleges of Nursing
American Association on Health and Disability
American College of Clinical Psychology
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American College of Physicians
American Heart Association
American Medical Women's Association
American Nurses Association
American Psychiatric Association
American Psychological Association
APS Foundation of America, Inc
Association for Prevention Teaching and Research
Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs
Association of Public Health Laboratories
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials

Association of State Public Health Nutritionists
Association of University Centers on Disabilities
Autism Society of America
Black Girls Vote
Black Mamas Matter Alliance
Catholic Health Association of the United States
Center of Excellence in Maternal and Child Health at Harvard
Centering Healthcare Institute
Child Welfare League of America
Children's Hospital Association
Crystal Ball Health
Division for Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children (DEC)
Equitable Maternal Health Coalition
Every Mother Counts
Families USA
First Focus Campaign for Children
Futures Without Violence
GLO Preemies
Guttmacher Institute
Hand to Hold
HealthConnect One
Healthy Birth Day, Inc.
Healthy Teen Network
HealthyWomen
Hemophilia Federation of America
Hyperemesis Education and Research Foundation
IDEA Infant and Toddler Coordinators Association (ITCA)
Institute for Perinatal Quality Improvement (PQI)
International Stillbirth Alliance
The Jewish Federations of North America
Lakeshore Foundation
Lamaze International
Lifeline for Families Center and Lifeline for Moms Program at the University of Massachusetts
Chan Medical School
March for Moms
March of Dimes
Maternal Mental Health Leadership Alliance
Medela
MomsRising
NARAL Pro-Choice America
NASTAD
National Association for Children's Behavioral Health
National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities
National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National Birth Equity Collaborative

National Black Women's HIV/AIDS Network, Inc.
National Family Planning & Reproductive Health Association
National Healthy Start Association
National Institute for Children's Health Quality - NICHQ
National League for Nursing
National Network of Public Health Institutes
National Nurse-Led Care Consortium
National Partnership for Women & Families
National Rural Health Association
National WIC Association
Nemours Children's Health
Nurse-Family Partnership
Organization of Teratology Information Specialists
Parents as Teachers
Planned Parenthood Federation of America
Postpartum Support International
Power to Decide
Preeclampsia Foundation
PremieWorld, LLC
Prevent Blindness
Prevent Child Abuse America
Prevention Institute
Restoring Our Own Through Transformation (ROOTT)
RESULTS
Safe States Alliance
School-Based Health Alliance
Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine
Society for Public Health Education
Society for Reproductive Investigation
Society for Women's Health Research
Spina Bifida Association
Tara Hansen Foundation
The 2 Degrees Foundation
The National Alliance to Advance Adolescent Health
The PPROM Foundation
The Shane Foundation
Trust for America's Health
U.S. Breastfeeding Committee
UAMS
University at Albany School of Public Health
University of Illinois School of Public Health Center of Excellence in Maternal and Child Health
ZERO TO THREE