

**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