

Date

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

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

Commented [DL1]: Identical letter to be sent to Senate LHHS
Leadership (Sens. Patty Murray & Roy Blunt)

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Cole:

As Congress works on the Fiscal Year 2022 (FY 2022) appropriations bills, we strongly support increasing the funding for the Social Determinants of Health Program at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (NCCDPHP) to \$50 million. We sincerely thank the Labor-HHS Subcommittee for funding the program for the first time in FY 2021 at \$3 million. The [XXX] undersigned organizations ask that this initial investment be built upon to ensure that the social determinants of health in underserved communities are addressed.

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted how a community's conditions directly impact the health of its residents. Unsafe or unstable housing, income insecurity, lack of transportation, and underlying health inequities put some populations at higher risk during this public health emergency. People at disproportionate risk for serious health impacts from COVID-19 are also more likely to suffer secondary consequences, such as loss of income or health care. Now, more than ever, it is important to address the social and economic conditions, including housing, employment, food security, and education, that contribute significantly to an individual's health outcomes over their lifetime.

A healthier, more resilient population and stronger economy requires us to prevent and control health conditions that raise health care costs and put lives at risk. We urge you to fund CDC's Social Determinants of Health Program at \$50 million in order to create a national investment in addressing the conditions that affect the health and livelihoods of all communities and prevent disease at the outset.

We thank you for your support in FY 2021 and your consideration of our FY 2022 request, and we look forward to working with you to improve and protect health. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact Daphne Delgado, Senior Government Relations Manager at Trust for America's Health at ddelgado@tfah.org.

Sincerely,

National Organizations:

State & Local Organizations: