

# COALITION *for* HEALTH FUNDING

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Washington, D.C. – Coalition for Health Funding Executive Director Angela Ostrom issued the following statement regarding the Coalition's [letter to Congress](#) highlighting the outstanding funding investments that are needed to adequately respond to the coronavirus crisis while continuing to fund ongoing public health programs and research:

*The Coalition for Health Funding extends our appreciation to congressional leaders for their passage of nearly \$3 trillion in emergency supplemental appropriations for the COVID-19 pandemic response over the last two months. The Coalition for Health Funding recognizes the congressional leadership demonstrated in these national recovery packages that have addressed many critical public health and national economic needs; however, more investment is required in order to adequately address this public health crisis.*

*Today the Coalition sent a letter to Congress containing our priorities for the next coronavirus response package which include, but are not limited to: investments in federal biomedical and health care research agencies and programs; funding for our nation's public health infrastructure and programs to support testing, contact tracing, laboratory capacity, and other preparedness and response needs; and, funds to ensure that our health care system and federal research enterprise emerge from this pandemic stronger, more resilient, and better equipped for the next health threat.*

*Our nation must not fail in this fight or lose ground in addressing other infectious diseases and public health epidemics that take hundreds of thousands of lives every year. COVID-19 has taken the lives of tens of thousands of Americans and in the process revealed the strain on our public health infrastructure that stems from chronically underfunding public health. We must make the emergency investments to address our needs now, and plan for long-term investments in public health. The Coalition believes that these and other emergency funding should be appropriated as part of the recovery and not offsets for later fiscal year cuts that would endanger our continued and future pandemic response.*

*As always, the Coalition and our members stand ready to support you in discussing these needs, providing experts or data, connecting you to our member leadership, or answering any questions.*

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The Coalition for Health Funding, celebrating 50 years as a leading nonprofit alliance working to preserve public health investments in the interest of all Americans. Our 92 member organizations together represent more than 100 million patients and consumers, health providers, professionals, and researchers.

<http://www.publichealthfunding.org>

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