

# COALITION *for* HEALTH FUNDING

January 8, 2021

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.  
President-elect  
1401 Constitution Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear President-elect Biden:

On behalf of the [Coalition for Health Funding](#) and our 92 member organizations, congratulations on your election to President of the United States! Founded in 1970, The Coalition works to preserve and strengthen federal investments across the public health continuum. Our diverse member organizations—representing nearly 100 million patients, health providers, professionals, and researchers—speak with one voice before Congress and the administration in support of federally funded health programs with the shared goal of improved health and well-being for all.

As you work to craft your federal budget priorities for Fiscal Year 2022, we urge you to make strong investments in our country's essential public health programs including at the National Institutes of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Health Resources and Services Administration, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, the Food and Drug Administration, the Indian Health Service, and the Administration for Community Living. FY 2022 marks the first year since FY 2011 in which discretionary spending will not be constrained by the budget caps imposed by the Budget Control Act of 2011 (P.L. 112-25) providing your administration and Congress the opportunity to fortify our public health programs. The time is now to support investments in health and science to move the country towards our shared goal of improving the health of all Americans.

The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed the serious consequences of chronic underfunding of the public health infrastructure, which requires predictable and sustained annual increases. In addition to the direct response to COVID-19, federal agencies have seen their regular work disrupted, underfunded, and challenged over the past few years. Federal public health agencies create, translate and implement new knowledge through an interdependent continuum of programs that expand access to care, improve health care quality, lower health care costs, enhance safety, prepare for and respond to emergencies, and discover new cures. These goals are only achievable with strong and sustained funding for a continuum of biomedical, behavioral, social, and health services research; community based prevention strategies; health care services for the medically underserved; and education of a robust health workforce.

The Coalition calls on the Biden-Harris administration to prioritize funding for public health across the federal government in your FY 2022 budget. We look forward to working with you and your administration over the coming years. Thank you and please feel free to reach out to me at [emorton@dc-crd.com](mailto:emorton@dc-crd.com) with any questions or of the Coalition can be of assistance to you during the transition or during your first 100 days in office.

Sincerely,



Erin Morton  
Executive Director