

COALITION *for* HEALTH FUNDING

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 20, 2022

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Washington, D.C.—The Coalition for Health Funding issues the following statement highlighting the importance of robust annual funding for FY 2023:

The Coalition for Health Funding is disappointed that Congress once again will not pass the FY 2023 funding bills by the September 30 deadline and will rely instead on a continuing resolution (CR) to avoid a government shutdown.

Federal health agencies play a key role in addressing our nation's public health needs and work in partnership with state and local governments to protect and promote health in our communities. While each agency within the Department of Health and Human Services has a unique mission to respond to our nation's health demands, they are all interconnected and must be well-funded with sustainable increases. Recent events such as the COVID-19 pandemic, monkeypox outbreak, steep uptick in overdose deaths, and consistently high rates of maternal mortality demonstrate why it is important to provide robust, sustained, and predictable investments in our nation's public health continuum.

In response to CR negotiations, CHF sent a letter to Congressional leadership today urging them to pass full-year funding for HHS agencies and highlighting additional examples of the dysfunction CRs cause. While a short-term CR will buy Congress time to negotiate the final FY 23 spending bills, a year-long CR is unacceptable to Americans and the public health agencies on which they rely.

Today and tomorrow, over 50 coalition members will be meeting with legislators to discuss the need to pass funding legislation and to share their own stories about how CRs disrupt their organizations' efforts to promote and protect Americans' health.

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The Coalition for Health Funding works to preserve public health investments in the interest of all Americans. Our 84 member organizations together represent more than 100 million patients and consumers, health providers, professionals, and researchers