

March 25, 2021

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human
Services, Education, and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro, Ranking Member Granger, and Ranking Member Cole:

As you consider appropriations for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022, **the undersigned 202 national, state, and local medical, public health, and research organizations write to ask you to provide \$50 million in funding shared evenly between the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to conduct public health research into firearm morbidity and mortality prevention.**

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, communities across the U.S. continue to suffer from the public health crisis of firearm-related injuries and deaths. In 2019, the most recent year for which we have data, firearm-related injuries led to 39,707 fatalities.¹ A public health approach to firearm violence prevention is urgently needed to promote health equity and address the disproportionate burden of this epidemic on communities of color. The foundation of this approach is rigorous research that can accurately quantify and describe the facets of an issue and identify opportunities for reducing its related morbidity and mortality.

measures that can best prevent the next shooting at a school or public place; and numerous other vital public health questions. Continued and expanded investments are essential to the success of this important work.

Our groups strongly urge the House to increase funding to the CDC and NIH for firearm morbidity and mortality prevention research to a total of \$50 million as part of FY 2022 appropriations. Continued and expanded funding could support the creation of additional, large, multi-year studies and accelerate the rebuilding of a research community that shrank in the decades before Congress restored this federal funding. Robust and sustained research on motor vehicle crashes and subsequent legislation has helped save hundreds of thousands of lives through public health interventions, including seat belts and other safety features. The same approach can help reduce firearm-related injuries in our communities, including ensuring that the CDC and NIH are able to adequately fund non-biased, evidence-

American Psychoanalytic Association
American Psychological Association
American Public Health Association
American School Counselor Association
American Society for Clinical Pathology
American Society of Pediatric Nephrology
American Society of Pediatric Neurosurgeons
American Society of Pediatric Otolaryngology
American Sociological Association
American Thoracic Society
American Trauma Society
Association for Psychological Science
Association of American Medical Colleges
Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO)
Association of Departments of Family Medicine
Association of Family Medicine Residency Directors
Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs
Association of Pediatric Program Directors
Association of Population Centers
Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials
Big Cities Health Coalition
Brain Injury Association of America
Catholic Health Association of the United States
Center for American Progress
Child Injury Prevention Alliance
Children's Defense Fund
Children's Hospital Association
Coalition for the Promotion of Behavioral Health
Coalition to Stop Gun Violence
Congress of Neurological Surgeons
Consortium of Social Science Associations
Council of Pediatric Subspecialties
Council on Social Work Education
Doctors for America
Emergency Nurses Association
Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences
First Focus Campaign for Children
Futures Without Violence
GLMA: Health Professionals Advancing LGBTQ Equality
Healthy Teen Network
International Association of Forensic Nurses
Jewish Federations of North America
Jewish Women International
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Association for Children's Behavioral Health
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners

National Association of School Nurses
National Association of School Psychologists
National Association of State Emergency Medical Services Officials
National Coalition Against Domestic Violence
National League for Nursing
National Network of Public Health Institutes
National Organization for Women
National Prevention Science Coalition to Improve Lives
National Safety Council
National Women's Health Network
Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies
North American Primary Care Research Group
North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition
Pediatric Endocrine Society
Pediatric Policy Council
Population Association of America
Prevention Institute
Safe States Alliance
Sandy Hook Promise
School Social Work Association of America
Scrubs Addressing the Firearm Epidemic
Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine
Society for Advancement of Violence and Injury Research (SAVIR)
Society for Pediatric Anesthesia
Society for Pediatric Research
Society for Prevention Research
Society for Social Work and Research
Society of General Internal Medicine
Society of Teachers of Family Medicine
The Health Alliance for Violence Intervention
The National Alliance to Advance Adolescent Health
The Pediatric Orthopaedic Society of North America
The Society for Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics
The Society of Thoracic Surgeons
Trust for America's Health
Ujima, Inc., The National Center on Violence Against Women in the Black Community
YMCA of the USA
ZERO TO THREE

State and Local Organizations:

A Friend of Mind
Alabama Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
American Academy of Pediatrics - Arizona Chapter
American Academy of Pediatrics California Chapter 1
American Academy of Pediatrics California Chapter 2
American Academy of Pediatrics California Chapter 3
American Academy of Pediatrics - Colorado Chapter

American Academy of Pediatrics - Hawaii Chapter
American Academy of Pediatrics New York Chapter 2
American Academy of Pediatrics New York Chapter 3
American Academy of Pediatrics Puerto Rico Chapter
American Academy of Pediatrics Vermont Chapter
American Academy of Pediatrics, Maine Chapter
American Academy of Pediatrics, Utah Chapter
Arizona

