



May 31, 2024

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin
Chair
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human
Services, Education and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human
Services, Education and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Robert Aderholt
Chair
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human
Services, Education, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human
Services, Education, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Re: FY25 appropriations request for a national PrEP program at CDC

Dear Chairs Baldwin and Aderholt and Ranking Members Capito and DeLauro,

On behalf of a wide coalition of HIV and health organizations and advocates, the 178 organizations below respectfully urge you to include \$100 million in discretionary funding to continue development of a National PrEP Program as part of a \$175 million increase for CDC's Ending the HIV Epidemic initiative in the Division of HIV Prevention. Additionally, we urge you to include report language that would help ensure integration and implementation of a PrEP program that is national in scope, as is permitted under CDC's current authorization.

Expanding Access to and Uptake of PrEP Is Needed to End the HIV Epidemic

The bipartisan Ending the HIV Epidemic initiative calls for 50% of the approximately 1.2 million people who could benefit from PrEP in the U.S. to have access by 2030. We can and should exceed this goal. Currently, only 36% of individuals in need of PrEP are using it, with significant disparities based on race, ethnicity, geography, age, and other factors. Despite making up 42% of new HIV diagnoses in 2021, Black individuals accounted for only 14% of PrEP users in 2022. Similarly, Hispanic individuals accounted for 27% of new HIV diagnoses in 2021 yet made up only 17% of PrEP users in 2022.¹ These disparities jeopardize our progress toward ending HIV as an epidemic; in a recent analysis out of Emory University, states with the highest PrEP coverage showed an annual percentage decrease in HIV diagnoses of 8% (2012 - 2021) while states with low PrEP coverage increased 2% each year.²

A National PrEP Program Is Needed to Reduce Costs Associated with New HIV Infections

In the U.S., low access and uptake of PrEP prevents the nation from realizing its full benefit, including the prevention of thousands of new HIV acquisitions each year as well as the substantial lifetime costs

¹ Source: <https://aidsvu.org/resources/deeper-look-prep/>

² Sullivan P et al. *Association of State-Level PrEP Coverage and State-Level HIV Diagnoses, US, 2012-2021*. Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections, Denver, abstract 165, 2024.

associated with each new case. A 2022 article published in the Journal of Law Medicine and Ethics estimated that every 1,000 monthly PrEP prescriptions would cost \$80,000.³ ***Six thousand monthly prescriptions would cost less than \$500,000, the lifetime value of just 1 prevented HIV infection.*** A strong national PrEP program would help to improve health and reduce costs by increasing ready access to affordable PrEP medication and required medical services.

In addition to funding this request, and maintaining funding for other domestic HIV programs that support PrEP activities, we urge you to please include the following report language for a National PrEP Program that would cover current gaps in services and reach all people who are at risk for HIV:

Domestic HIV/AIDS Prevention and Research. Ending the HIV Epidemic and Access to PrEP.—The Committee includes a \$175 million increase for CDC's Ending the HIV Epidemic program, with at least \$100 million of that funding to support increasing equitable access nationwide by race, ethnicity, income, geography or other appropriate measures to pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), medication that prevents HIV. Funding should support a national program to increase awareness of PrEP; access to PrEP medications, necessary laboratory services, and essential support services, such as case management, counseling, linkage, and adherence services; robust PrEP outreach and education activities; and PrEP provider capacity expansion. CDC shall submit a report to the Committee within 180 days of enactment of final FY25 appropriations on the status of a national PrEP initiative.

A National PrEP Program would help to end the domestic HIV epidemic by reducing thousands of new cases per year, improving health outcomes, and reducing health care costs. Thank you so much for your time, consideration, and leadership on this critical issue impacting families and communities nationwide.

Sincerely,

National/DC

50 Fathers Credible Messenger
Act Now:End AIDS (ANEA) Coalition
Advocates for Youth
AIDS Alliance for Women, Infants, Children, Youth & Families
AIDS United
American Academy of HIV Medicine
American Psychological Association
CAEAR Coalition
Center for HIV Law & Policy
Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation
Equality Federation
Fast-Track Cities Institute
Fundors Concerned About AIDS
GLMA: Health Professionals Advancing LGBTQ+ Equality
Gran Varones
Health Services Center, Inc.
HealthHIV
HIV + Hepatitis Policy Institute
In Our Own Voice: National Black Women's Reproductive Justice Agenda
International Association of Providers of AIDS Care
International Community of Women Living with HIV North America

³ Killelea A. Financing and Delivering Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) to End the HIV Epidemic. 2022.

MPact Global Action
NASTAD
National Alliance for HIV Education and Workforce Development (NAHEWD)
National Association of County and City Health Officials
National Black Gay Men's Advocacy Coalition
National Coalition for LGBTQ Health
National Coalition of STD Directors
National Harm Reduction Coalition
National HIV/AIDS Housing Coalition
National Pharmaceutical Association (NPhA)
NMAC
PFLAG National
Population Council
Positive Women's Network-USA
PrEP4All
Ryan White Medical Providers Coalition
SIECUS: Sex Ed for Social Change
The AIDS Institute
U.S. People Living with HIV Caucus
U=U plus
URGE: Unite for Reproductive & Gender Equity
Whitman-Walker Institute

Alabama

AIDS Alabama
Five Horizons Health Services
Southern AIDS Coalition
Thrive Alabama

Alaska

Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association
Interior AIDS Association

Arizona

National Pharmaceutical Association (NPhA)
Southwest Center for HIV/AIDS
Southwest Recovery Alliance

Arkansas

Ozark Pride Inc

California

Access Support Network
APLA Health
Equality California
Equity & Impact Solutions
Food for Thought
Los Angeles LGBT Center
San Francisco AIDS Foundation
San Francisco Community Health Center
The TransLatin@ Coalition

UCSF

Colorado

Colorado Organizations and Individuals Responding to HIV/AIDS (CORA)
Vivent Health

Connecticut

AIDS Connecticut
Connecticut Harm Reduction Alliance
Positive Directions
Recovery Network of Programs

Delaware

Beautiful Gate Outreach Center
Delaware HIV Consortium

Florida

CenterLink: The Community of LGBT Centers
Compass LGBTQ Community Center
Hope and Help Center of Central Florida, Inc.
Latinos Salud
Positively U Inc.
The AIDS Institute

Georgia

Atlanta Black Women Leaders on PrEP
Black Public Health Academy
Georgia AIDS Coalition
Georgia Equality
HIV Dental Alliance
Latino LinQ
SisterLove, Inc.
THRIVE SS Inc.

Hawaii

Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center

Idaho

Fatty Liver Foundation

Illinois

AIDS Foundation Chicago
CALOR
Chicago House and Social Service Agency
Chicago Women's AIDS Project
Golden Rainbows of Illinois South
Howard Brown Health
Illinois Public Health Association
Neelyx Labs
Positively Aware
Public Health Institute of Metropolitan Chicago

Rainbow Café
The Reunion Project
Vivent Health

Indiana

Indiana Recovery Alliance

Iowa

Sero Project

Kansas

Positive Directions Inc.

Kentucky

Richmond Pride, Inc.

Louisiana

AcadianaCARES
Community Access National Network
DECISIVE MINDS

Maine

EqualityMaine

Maryland

AIDS Action Baltimore
Healthy Teen Network
Ribbon

Massachusetts

Community Resource Initiative
JSI
Fenway Health
Multicultural AIDS Coalition
R2H Action [Right to Health]

Michigan

CARES of Southwest Michigan
HIV AIDS Alliance of Michigan
Lansing Area AIDS Network
Thomas Judd Care Center at Munson Medical Center
UNIFIED- HIV Health and Beyond
Vivent Health
Wellness AIDS Services, Inc.

Minnesota

Aliveness Project
Hennepin County Red Door Clinic
Hennepin County, Minnesota
Hope House of St. Croix Valley
The Aliveness Project, Inc.

Mississippi

Five Horizons Health Services
My Brother's Keeper, Inc.

Missouri

Vivent Health

Nevada

Silver State Equality

New Jersey

Hyacinth Foundation

New Mexico

Equality New Mexico

New York

amfAR, The Foundation for AIDS Research
AVAC
Black Women's Learning Institute
Callen-Lorde Community Health Center
Elton John AIDS Foundation
Global Justice Institute
God's Love We Deliver
Health GAP
Housing Works
iHealth
Korean Community Services of Metropolitan New York
Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, Inc.
Latino Commission on AIDS
National Working Positive Coalition
Population Council
Reproductive Health Access Project
SAGE
Strategies for High Impact (S4HI)
The Well Project
Treatment Action Group

North Carolina

Advocacy House Services, Inc.
American Sexual Health Association
Duke Global Health Institute
Latino Commission On AIDS- Latinos in the South
NC AIDS Action Network
North Carolina AIDS ACTION NETWORK

North Dakota

Canopy Medical Clinic

Ohio

Association of Nurses in AIDS Care
Equitas Health

Oklahoma
Freedom Oklahoma

Oregon
Cascade AIDS Project

Pennsylvania
Community Liver Alliance
Medical Students for Choice
Women Empowered International

Puerto Rico
Puerto Rican Cultural Center
Puerto Rican Cultural Center-Public Health Initiatives

Rhode Island
Project Weber/RENEW
Rhode Island Public Health Institute
Open Door Health

Tennessee
Covenant Care Health Services, LLC
TN Transgender Task Force

Texas
BEAT AIDS
Equitable Access
National Pharmaceutical Association (NPhA)
Prism Health North Texas
Vivent Health

U.S. Virgin Islands
Frederiksted Health Care Inc.

Vermont
AIDS Project of Southern Vermont
Vermont CARES SSP

Virginia
HIV Medicine Association
The Matrix Consulting, LLC

Washington
HEP
PCAF (formerly Pierce County AIDS Foundation)

West Virginia
Appalachian Learning Initiative Inc.

Community Education Group (CEG)

Wisconsin
Vivent Health