

FRIENDS of the TITLE V MATERNAL and CHILD HEALTH BLOCK GRANT

c/o Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs
1825 K Street NW, Suite 250, Washington, DC 20006 Tel: 202-775-0436

March 26, 2026

The Honorable Shelly Moore Capito
Chair
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education & Related Agencies
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin
Ranking Member
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education & Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Robert Aderholt
Chair
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education & Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education & Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Capito, Ranking Member Baldwin, Chair Aderholt, and Ranking Member DeLauro:

As organizations dedicated to improving the health of all women, children, and families, we strongly urge you to support at least **\$1 billion for the Title V Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Services Block Grant (Title V) in the fiscal year (FY) 2027 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, reflecting increases for both the state formula fund as well as Special Projects of Regional and National Significance (SPRANS).**

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), approximately 700 pregnancy-related deaths occur in the U.S. each year. Moreover, according to 2021 data from 46 state MMRCs, 87% of pregnancy-related deaths were determined to be preventable. Further, the total infant mortality rate in the U.S. increased by 3% from 2021-2022. *The Title V MCH Block Grant is the only federal program of its kind devoted solely to improving the health of all women and children.*

Title V is a cost-effective, accountable, and flexible funding source that addresses the most critical, pressing, and unique needs of maternal and child health populations in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and each territory. State, local, and territorial health departments use Title V funds to design and implement a wide range of statewide and community-level maternal and child health programs to fit the needs of their specific populations. According to data gathered by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), ***in FY 2024, the Title V state formula fund, which includes a 75 percent state match requirement, served 99 percent of infants, 92 percent of pregnant women, and 62 percent of children nationwide; and the SPRANS portion of Title V supported the work of over 280 grantees across 59 states and territories.***

While programming varies among states, areas of focus among Title V MCH programs include reducing maternal mortality, infant mortality, stillbirth, and preventable diseases among children; advancing health outcomes of mothers, children, and families; assuring access to quality maternal and child health services, especially for families with incomes below the federal poverty level or who live in areas with limited availability of health services; and promoting family-centered, community-based, coordinated care for children with special health care needs. These programs ensure people receive preventive services to avoid more costly chronic conditions later in life, thereby saving federal and state governments money.

Further, the SPRANS portion of Title V is an essential component to achieving its mission of ensuring the health of the nation's mothers, women, children and youth, including children and youth with special health care needs, and their families. SPRANS works to advance MCH by supporting targeted investments that serve as an incubator of MCH innovation across a variety of grantees, including universities, state health departments, and nonprofit organizations. SPRANS grants fund training and workforce, technical assistance, quality improvement, and other mission-critical efforts, including genetics services, newborn screening, and treatments for sickle cell disease and hemophilia. A loss of SPRANS funding could detrimentally impact MCH populations, providers, public health professionals, and trainees in a sweeping way.

The MCH workforce and programs need sustained, increased investment to best serve the nation's maternal and child health populations now and into the future. For FY 2026, we were grateful no cuts were made to the Title V MCH Services Block Grant, including the state formula fund and SPRANS. However, ongoing constraints and flat funding continue to challenge programs facing rising costs and growing needs to address the alarming rates of maternal and infant mortality and morbidity. Moving forward, **we urge you to provide an increase to at least \$1 billion in FY 2027, including robust increases in both the state formula fund and for SPRANS**, to promote sustainable public health programs centered on the needs of our nation's women, children, and families. For additional information on MCH programs in your state, please contact Sherie Lou Santos at the Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs at 202-964-2411 or ssantos@amchp.org.

Sincerely,

Aaliyah in Action
Academic Pediatric Association
Access Quality LLC
AFE Foundation
Aligned HOPE
American Academy of Family Physicians
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Association of Birth Centers
American Association of Colleges of Nursing
American Association on Health and Disability
American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American College of Physicians
American College of Preventive Medicine

American Heart Association
American Nurses Association
American Pediatric Society
American Psychological Association
APS Foundation of America
Association for Prevention Teaching and Research
Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs
Association of Ohio Health Commissioners
Association of Public Health Laboratories
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO)
Association of State Public Health Nutritionists
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses
Baby Cafe USA
Birthing You Doula Services
BirthRoot Community Doula
Black Midwifery Collective
BMMA, Inc. (Black Mamas Matter Alliance)
Breastfeeding Family Friendly Communities
Catholic Health Association of the United States
Centering Healthcare Institute
Child and Adolescent Health Measurement Initiative, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
Children's Hospital Association
Colorado Association of Local Public Health Officials
Comagine Health
Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists
Eucalyptus Health
Every Mother Counts
Families USA
Family Connects International
Family Voices National
Family Voices of California
FASD United
First Candle
First Focus Campaign for Children
Foundation for Healthy Generations
Futures Without Violence
Hawaii Children's Action Network Speaks!
HealthConnect One
Healthy Birth Day, Inc.
Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Coalition of Hawaii
Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies - The Montana Coalition
Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition of Georgia
Healthy Teen Network
HealthyWomen
Hyperemesis Education & Research Foundation

Institute for Child Success
 Institute for Perinatal Quality Improvement (PQI)
 Institute for Women's Policy Research
 Iowa Chapter of NAPNAP
 Jace's Journey
 Kansas Association of Local Health Departments
 Kentucky Health Department Association
 Kitsap Public Health
 La Leche League of Hendry County
 Lakeshore Foundation
 Lifeline for Families Center and Lifeline for Moms Program at UMass Chan Medical School
 Love and Life Doula Wellness
 March of Dimes
 Marillac St. Vincent Family Services
 Maryland Association of County Health Officers
 Maternal Mental Health Leadership Alliance
 Michigan Breastfeeding Network
 Michigan Council for Maternal and Child Health
 MomsRising
 National Alliance on Mental Illness
 National Association of County & City Health Officials
 National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
 National Birth Equity Collaborative
 National Black Nurses Association
 National Black Women's HIV/AIDS Network
 National Coalition of STD Directors
 National Family Planning & Reproductive Health Association
 National Federation of Families
 National Healthy Start Association (NHSA)
 National Institute for Children's Health Quality
 National League for Nursing
 National Network of Public Health Institutes
 National Nurse-Led Care Consortium
 National Partnership for Women and Families
 NC Public Health Association
 New Jersey Association of County and City Health Officials (NJACCHO)
 Nightingale Health
 Nurturely
 Oklahoma Infant Transition Program, Dept of Neonatology, OUHSC
 Oregon Coalition of Local Health Officials
 Parents as Teachers National Center
 Pediatric Policy Council
 Perinatal Support Washington
 Planned Parenthood Federation of America
 Postpartum Support International of Delaware
 Postpartum Support International - Iowa

Power to Decide
Preeclampsia Foundation
Prevent Blindness
Prevent Child Abuse Illinois
Prevention Institute
Reproductive Freedom for All
Rhode Island KIDS COUNT
Safe States Alliance
Scully & O'Leary LLC
SisterWeb
Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine
Society for Pediatric Research
Society for Public Health Education
Texas Association of City & County Health Officials
The 2 Degrees Foundation
The Arc Michigan
The Children's Home Society of New Jersey
The Honeycomb House
The National Alliance to Advance Adolescent Health
The Parents' Place of MD
The PPROM Foundation
The Shane Foundation
The University at Albany Maternal and Child Health Program
Trust for America's Health
U.S. Breastfeeding Committee
WANDA: Women Advancing Nutrition Dietetics and Agriculture
Washington State Association of Local Public Health Officials
Washington State Public Health Association
Wisconsin Association of Local Health Departments and Boards
Wraparound Emergency Child Care Advocacy Network (WECAN)
ZERO TO THREE