

March 27, 2026

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

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

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

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

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

The 35 undersigned organizations working to promote the health of all individuals **urge you to provide at least \$130.42 million in the fiscal year (FY) 2027 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations bill for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity (DNPAO) alongside an overall increase for CDC's National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (NCCDPHP)**. This level of funding would allow DNPAO to expand the State Physical Activity and Nutrition Program (SPAN) to all 50 states, continue support for the High Obesity Program (HOP) and Active People Healthy Nation, build state-level chronic disease prevention capacity, and scale local community interventions to prevent obesity and related chronic conditions.

Preventing and reducing chronic conditions like obesity requires a multifaceted approach to ensure that healthy eating and active living are accessible and affordable to all people and in all communities. DNPAO helps to make healthy choices easy choices by supporting access to healthy food options in community settings, active living, and childhood obesity prevention. Grantees work with early care and education facilities, hospitals, and worksites to support healthy living. Partners are leading efforts to make breastfeeding easier and promote healthier childhoods such as advancing farm-to-early childcare programs. DNPAO also conducts research and evaluation that fuels innovation.

Preventing chronic diseases like obesity is critical to reducing spending and making healthcare more affordable. More than 40 percent of U.S. adults live with obesity, a 15-percentage point increase over the last decade and a 30-percentage point increase since 2011. Similarly, the rate of obesity among children increased 42 percent from 2000 to 2020. Obesity is one of the leading drivers of healthcare spending in the United States – studies have found that obesity accounted for as much as \$260 billion in medical costs annually and more than \$1.4 trillion in economic costs.

We are urging Congress to provide at least \$130.42 million for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity in the FY 2027 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations bill.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and your support for working to reduce chronic diseases in communities across the country.

Sincerely,

Trust for America's Health
Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
Accessia Health
American Heart Association
American Society for Nutrition
America Walks
AMWA
Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum (APIAHF)
Association of Diabetes Care & Education Specialists
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials
American Association on Health and Disability
Creighton University
Based Analytics LLC
Center for Science in the Public Interest
Choose Healthy Life
Defend Public Health
Department of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences, George Washington University School of Public Health
I am health education
Gerontological Society of America
Health E Strategies
Jump In for Healthy Kids
Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition
Lakeshore Foundation
Multnomah County Health Department
National Association of County and City Health Officials
National Farm to School Network
National Network of Public Health Institutes
Partnership for a Healthier America
Prevent Blindness
Public Health Institute
Silver State Equality
Smart Growth America
Society for Public Health Education
U.S. Breastfeeding Committee
YMCA of the USA