



May 17, 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 179 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,

[ORGANIZATIONAL SIGNATURES]

50 Fathers Credible Messenger (National)

AcadianaCARES (LA)

Act Now:End AIDS (ANEA) Coalition (DC)

ACTS101 (Uganda)

Advocacy House Services, Inc. (NC)

Advocates for Youth (DC)

AIDS Action Baltimore (MD)

AIDS Alabama (AL)

AIDS Alabama South (AL)

AIDS Alliance for Women, Infants, Children, Youth & Families (DC)

AIDS Foundation Chicago (IL)

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

AIDS United (DC)
Aliveness Project (MN)
American Academy of HIV Medicine (DC)
American Psychological Association (DC)
American Sexual Health Association (NC)
amfAR, The Foundation for AIDS Research (NY)
Amoru AIDS Support Community Initiative (ASCI).
APLA Health (CA)
Appalachian Learning Initiative Inc. (WV)
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care (OH)
Atlanta Black Women Leaders on PrEP (GA)
AVAC (NY)
BEAT AIDS
Black Public Health Academy (GA)
Black Women's Learning Institute (NY)
CAEAR Coalition (DC)
Callen-Lorde Community Health Center (NY)
CALOR (IL)
CARES of Southwest Michigan (MI)
Cascade AIDS Project (OR)
Center for HIV Law & Policy (National)
CenterLink: The Community of LGBT Centers (FL)
Chicago House and Social Service Agency (IL)
Chicago Women's AIDS Project (IL)
Children and Youth Uganda(CYU).
Colorado Organizations and Individuals Responding to
HIV/AIDS(CORA) (CO)
Community Access National Network (LA)
Community Education Group (CEG) (WV)
Community Health Partners, Uganda
Community Liver Alliance (PA)
Community Resource Initiative
Compass LGBTQ Community Center (FL)
Consolation (East Africa)
DECISIVE MINDS (LA)
Duke Global Health Institute (NC)

Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation (DC)
Elton John AIDS Foundation (NY)
EmpowerCare Youths Network Solution (Zambia)
Empowerment support group org
Equality California (CA)
Equality Federation (National)
Equitable Access
Equitas Health (OH)
Equity & Impact Solutions (CA)
Fast-Track Cities Institute (DC)
Fatty Liver Foundation (ID)
Fenway Health (MA)
Five Horizons Health Services (MS, AL)
Food for Thought (CA)
Freedom Oklahoma (OK)
Fundors Concerned About AIDS (DC)
General Hospital (Wannune, Tarka, Benue, Nigeria)
Georgia AIDS Coalition (GA)
Georgia Equality (GA)
Gerakan Mandiri Pita Merah Foundation
GLMA: Health Professionals Advancing LGBTQ+ Equality (DC)
Global Justice Institute (NY)
God's Love We Deliver (NY)
Golden Rainbows of Illinois South (IL)
Gran Varones (DC)
Health GAP (NY)
Health Services Center, Inc. (DC)
HealthHIV (DC)
Healthy Teen Network (MD)
Hennepin County Red Door Clinic (MN)
Hennepin County, Minnesota (MN)
HEP (WA)
HIV + Hepatitis Policy Institute (DC)
HIV AIDS Alliance of Michigan (MI)
HIV Dental Alliance (GA)
HIV Medicine Association (VA)

Hope and Help Center of Central Florida, Inc. (FL)
Hope House of St. Croix Valley (MN)
Housing Works (NY)
Howard Brown Health (IL)
Hyacinth Foundation (NJ)
iHealth (NY)
Illinois Public Health Association (IL)
In Our Own Voice: National Black Women's Reproductive Justice
Agenda (DC)
Indiana Recovery Alliance (IN)
International Association of Providers of AIDS Care (DC)
International Community of Women Living with HIV North America
JSI (MA)
Korean Community Services of Metropolitan New York (NY)
Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, Inc. (NY)
Lansing Area AIDS Network (MI)
Latino Commission on AIDS (NY)
Latino Commission On AIDS- Latinos in the South
Latino LinQ (GA)
Latinos Salud (FL)
LIFE HEALTH EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION TRUST
(Zimbabwe)
Los Angeles LGBT Center (CA)
MAAYGO NGO (Kenya)
Medical Students for Choice (PA)
Moe Innovation Africa
MPact Global Action (National and International)
Multicultural AIDS Coalition (MA)
My Brother's Keeper, Inc. (MS)
NASTAD (DC)
National Alliance for HIV Education and Workforce Development (DC)
National Alliance for HIV Education and Workforce Development
(NAHEWD) (National)
National Association of County and City Health Officials (DC)
National Black Gay Men's Advocacy Coalition (DC)
National Coalition for LGBTQ Health (DC)
National Coalition of STD Directors (DC)

National HIV/AIDS Housing Coalition (DC)
National Pharmaceutical Association (NPhA) (AZ, DC, TX)
National Working Positive Coalition (NY)
NC AIDS Action Network (NC)
Neelyx Labs (IL)
NMAC (DC)
North Carolina AIDS ACTION NETWORK (NC)
PCAF (formerly Pierce County AIDS Foundation) (WA)
PFLAG National (DC)
PHAKAMA AFRICA (South Africa)
Population Council (NY and DC)
Positive Women's Network-USA (CA)
Positively Aware (IL)
Positively U Inc (FL)
PrEP4All (NY)
Prism Health North Texas (TX)
Public Health Institute of Metropolitan Chicago (IL)
Puerto Rican Cultural Center (PR)
Puerto Rican Cultural Center-Public Health Initiatives (PR)
R2H Action [Right to Health] (MA)
Rainbow Café (IL)
Reproductive Health Access Project (NY)
Ribbon (MD)
Ryan White Medical Providers Coalition (DC)
SAGE (NY)
San Francisco AIDS Foundation (CA)
San Francisco Community Health Center (CA)
Sero Project (IA)
SIECUS: Sex Ed for Social Change (DC)
Silver State Equality (NV)
SisterLove, Inc. (GA)
Southern AIDS Coalition (AL)
Southwest Center for HIV/AIDS (AZ)
Southwest Recovery Alliance (AZ)
Strategies for High Impact (S4HI) (NY)
Tabene Youth Advocacy Network (Zambia)

Tanzania Community Health Information and Support (TaCHIS)
The AIDS Institute (DC, FL)
The Aliveness Project, Inc. (MN)
The Matrix Consulting, LLC (VA)
The Puerto Rican Cultural Center (PR)
The Reunion Project (IL)
The TransLatin@ Coalition (CA)
The Well Project (NY)
Thomas Judd Care Center at Munson Medical Center (MI)
Thrive Alabama (AL)
THRIVE SS Inc (GA)
Treatment Action Group (NY)
U.S. People Living with HIV Caucus (DC)
U=U plus (DC)
UCSF (CA)
Umzingwane AIDS Network (Zimbabwe)
UNIFIED- HIV Health and Beyond (MI)
URGE: Unite for Reproductive & Gender Equity (DC)
Vivent Health (CO, MO, TX, WI, IL, MI)
Wellness AIDS Services, Inc. (MI)
Whitman-Walker Institute (DC)
Women Empowered International (PA)
Y+ Malawi (Malawi)