May 15, 2023

The Honorable Charles Schumer Majority Leader United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell Minority Leader United States Senate Washington, DC 20510 The Honorable Kevin McCarthy Speaker U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries Minority Leader U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker McCarthy, Majority Leader Schumer, Minority Leader McConnell, and Minority Leader Jeffries:

The 760 undersigned organizations representing the full breadth of diverse programs that support all of America, every day are deeply alarmed by calls from some in Congress for very deep cuts in non-defense programs (often referred to as non-defense discretionary appropriations or simply

of the federal government to serve the public, assist those in need, fuel innovation, and address national and global threats.

Non-defense appropriations are a small part of the federal budget—less than one-sixth—yet they fund a wide range of important programs and services that make America run. Examples include: scientific and medical research, medical care for veterans, environmental protections, assistance with housing and child care for low-income families, rural development, support for K-12 education and skills training, financial aid for college students, infrastructure investments in things like sewage treatment, safe drinking water, flood control and navigation improvements, diplomacy, humanitarian aid and development, courts and reentry programs, assistance for small businesses, and other programs for seniors, public health, and many more.

Due in large part to the Budget Control Act of 2011 and subsequent sequestration, NDD funding has not grown significantly. In fact, adjusted for rising costs and population growth, NDD funding is below where it was in 2010. Measured relative to the size of the economy, NDD funding is lower than the average from 1977 through 2022. The turn to austerity following the Great Recession, headlined by the Budget Control Act, had a detrimental impact on the recovery and overall economy, contributing to lower economic growth, higher unemployment rates, and poorer economic outcomes. Constrained NDD funding over the past decade means that many unmet needs have not been addressed or have grown. These NDD programs need more federal investment, not less.

American Epilepsy Society

American Federation of State, County and

Municipal Employees (AFSCME)

American Federation of Teachers

American Gastroenterological Association

American Geophysical Union (AGU)

American Geriatrics Society

American Heart Association

American Indian Higher Education Consortium

Association of School Business Officials

International (ASBO)

Association of Schools and Colleges of

Optometry

Association of Schools and Programs of Public

Health

Association of State and Territorial Health

Officials

Association of the Clinicians for the

Underserved (ACU)

Association of University Centers on Disabilities

Association of University Professors of

Neurology

Association of University Professors of

Ophthalmology

Atlanta University Center Consortium

Atlantis Industries, Inc.

Autism Society of America

AVAC

Axis Advocacy

AZCASE

Basic Education Coalition

Baylor College of Medicine

BCCIL

Disability Rights California

Disability Rights Center New Hampshire

Disability Rights Center of Kansas

Disability Rights Florida

Disability Rights Iowa

Disability Rights Louisiana

Disability Rights Maine

Disability Rights Mississippi

Disability Rights New Jersey

Disability Rights New Mexico

Disability Rights New York

Disability Rights North Carolina

Disability Rights Oregon

Disability Rights South Carolina

Disability Rights Tennessee D(ioc)-Rustice Office

Disability Rights Vermont

Disability Rights Washington DDisasability Rights Oregon

Division of Child and Family Services

Dominican Sisters of Sinsinawa Peace and

Justice Office

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Health GAP (Global Access Project)

HealthDataViz

Healthy Teen Network

HealthyWomen

Helminthological Society of Washington

HelpAge USA

Hemophilia Federation of America

Higher Education Consortium for Special

Education (HECSE) Hilarity for Charity (HFC) HIV + Hepatitis Policy Institute HIV Medicine Association

Hope Charities

Housing Action Illinois Housing Works, Inc.

Houston Science Policy and Advocacy Group Human Factors and Ergonomics Society

Humanity Speaks

Hydrocephalus Association

IAVI

Iberia Parish Mosquito Abatement District

IC&RC

Idaho Innocence Project

Illinois Alliance of Administrators of Special

Education

Illinois Association for College Admission

Counseling

Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission Illinois Psychological Association

Illinois Society for the Prevention of Blindness

ImmSchools

Indiana Council of Administrators of Special

Education (ICASE) Indiana Disability Rights Indy Hunger Network

Infectious Diseases Society of America

Innocence Project

Innocence Project of Florida, Inc. Institute for Educational Leadership

Institute for Higher Education Policy (IHEP)

InterAction

International Association for Indigenous Aging International Association of Providers of AIDS

Care

International Public Health Advisors

International Safety Equipment Association

Interstitial Cystitis Association (ICA)

IntraHealth International

Ipas

Jazz at Lincoln Center Jewish Women International Josselyn

Justice in Aging Justice Strategies

Keck School of Medicine of USC Kentucky Innocence Project

KIPP Public Schools Knowledge Alliance Lasker Foundation Latinos for Education

LEAD Coalition (Leaders Engaged on

Alzheimer's Disease)

LeadingAge

Learning Disabilities Association of America

Legal Council for Health Justice

Legal Rights Center Lehigh University Life Unbolted Inc.

Linguistic Society of America

Lupus and Allied Diseases Association, Inc.

Lupus Foundation of America Lupus Research Alliance

LWDB 21

Lymphatic Education & Research Network

Lyons Industries, Inc.

Maine Prisoner Advocacy Coalition Management Sciences for Health

March of Dimes Mass General Brigham Maternity Care Coalition

Mathematical Association of America MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger

M-CM Network

Meals on Wheels America Meals on Wheels California

Meals on Wheels of Hillsborough County

Medical Library Association Medicare Rights Center Melanoma Research Foundation Memorial Behavioral Health

Mental Health America

MENTOR

Mesothelioma Applied Research Foundation

METAvivor

Michigan Music Education Association

Michigan State University Michigan Works! Association

Michigan Works! Northeast Consortium

Michigan Works! Southwest Mid-Atlantic Innocence Project Midwest Center of Excellence for Vector-Borne Disease Midwest Innocence Project Miles for Migraine Mind the Class Minnesota Administrators for Special Education Minnesota Music Educators Association Missouri Council of Administrators of Special Education National Coalition for Food and Agricultural

Research

National Coalition for Literacy

National Coalition of STD Directors

National College Attainment Network

National Community Development Association

National Council for Community and Education

Partnerships (NCCEP)

National Council for Diversity in Health

Professions (NCDHP)

National Council of Churches

National Council of Jewish Women

National Council of Juvenile and Family Court

Judges

National Council of Teachers of Mathematics

National Council on Alcoholism and Drug

Dependence Maryland Chapter

National Crittenton

National Disability Rights Network (NDRN)

National Disease Research Interchange

National Eating Disorders Association

National Eczema Association

National Employment Law Project

National Harm Reduction Coalition

National Health Care for the Homeless Council

National Health Council

National Healthy Start Association

National Hemophilia Foundation

National Hispanic Medical Association

National Housing Resource Center

National Indian Education Association

National Juvenile Justice Network

National Kidney Foundation

National Leased Housing Association

National Multiple Sclerosis Society

National National for Youth

National network for Youth

National Network of Public Health Institutes

National Network to End Domestic Violence

National Nurse-Led Care Consortium

National Organization for Tardive Dyskinesia

National Organization for Women

National Pancreas Foundation (NPF)

National Parks Conservation Association

National Partnership for Women & Families

National Postdoctoral Association

National Prevention Science Coalition to

Improve Lives

National Psoriasis Foundation

National Resource Center on Domestic Violence

National Rural Education Advocacy Consortium

National Rural Health Association

National Safety Council

National Skills Coalition

National Summer Learning Association

National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition

National Task Group / ID & Dementia Practices

National Women's Law Center

Native American Disability Law Center

Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)

Natural Science Collections Alliance

NCJW PA

Nebraska CASE - NASES

NELA Alliance aka Northeast Louisiana

Economic Alliance

Nephcure Kidney International

Nevada Disability Advocacy & Law Center

Never Use Alone Inc.

New Jersey Mosquito Control Association

New Leaders

New York Academy of Medicine

New York Council Of Administrators of Special

Education

Newfield CSD

NH Association of Special Education

Administrators

NMAC

North American Vac TJETQ EMC /Span &MCID 51/Lang (en)

Organizations Concerned About Rural

Education.

Ouachita Workforce Board 81

Overdose Crisis Response Fund

Oxfam America

PA Education Association

PaCASE-Pennsylvania Council of

Administrators of Special Education

Pacific Northwest Association for College

Admission Counseling

PAI

Parents as Teachers

PATH

Pennsylvania Music Educators Association

Pennsylvania Public Health Association

People Power United

People with Empathy

Planned Parenthood Federation of America

Platelet Disorder Support Association (PDSA)

Playworks

Population Association of America

Teach For America

Teacher Education Division of the Council for

Exceptional Children (TED)

The Advocacy Institute

The AIDS Institute

The American College of Preventive Medicine

The American Orff-Schulwerk Association

The American Society for Biochemistry and

Molecular Biology

The Association for Frontotemporal

Degeneration

The Association for Research in Vision and

Ophthalmology (ARVO)

The Brain Donor Project

THE BRAIN TRUTH

The Breakthrough Institute

The Center for Educational Equity at Teachers

College, Columbia University

The Coalition for Health Funding

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment

Station

The Corps Network

The Education Trust

The END Fund

The Exoneration Project

The George Washington University

The Gerontological Society of America

The Juniper Center

The Kennedy Forum

The Lundquist Institute

The Mended Hearts, Inc.

The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's

Research

The National Domestic Violence Hotline

The Porchlight Collective SAP

The Seventh Planning District Consortium

Workforce Board (LWDA 70)

The Shriver Center at UMBC

The Shriver Center on Poverty Law

The STARR Coalition

The Wilderness Society

Thresholds

Together for Girls

Tourette Association of America

TPAN

Transgender Resilience Project

Treatment Action Group

Treatment Communities of America

Trust for America's Health

Trust for Public Land