



July 30, 2021

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Chair  
Labor-HHS-Education  
Appropriations Subcommittee  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Ranking Member  
Labor-HHS-Education  
Appropriations Subcommittee  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Cole:

Thank you for the critical and timely funding increase for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) advanced through the House Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Labor-Health and Human Services-Education (L-HHS) Appropriations Bill. We write to specifically thank you for providing \$5 million for the emerging Chronic Disease Education and Awareness (CDEA) program housed at CDC’s National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion.

The initial FY 2021 investment of \$1.5 million for the CDEA program will allow CDC to fund several meaningful opportunities, but the interest in this program far outpaces currently available resources. We are aware that several proposals focusing on Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) were submitted for the first round of funding, for example.

Enhancing funding to \$5 million for FY 2022 is a responsible way to ensure that additional chronic disease conditions can be addressed in a meaningful way and that the program’s three-year funding cycle for grantees can operate effectively.

Please consider our organizations a resource on the CDEA program, and thank you once again.

Sincerely,

Alpha-1 Foundation  
American Association for Respiratory Care (AARC)  
American Lung Association  
American Thoracic Society

COPD Foundation  
Dorney-Koppel Foundation  
Respiratory Health Association  
U.S. COPD Coalition