September 16, 2022

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chair, Appropriations Subcommittee on
    Labor, Health and Human Services, and
    Education
Chair, Appropriations Committee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Patty Murray
Chair, Appropriations Subcommittee on
    Labor, Health and Human Services, and
    Education
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Cole
Ranking Member, Appropriations
    Subcommittee on Labor, Health and
    Human Services, and Education
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Roy Blunt
Ranking Member, Appropriations
    Subcommittee on Labor, Health and
    Human Services, and Education
United States Senate
Washington, DC 205150

Dear Chair DeLauro, Ranking Member Cole, Chair Murray, and Ranking Member Blunt,

As Friends of NCHS, we write to thank you for your support for the National Center for Health Statistics thus far in the FY 2023 appropriations process. NCHS provides enormous value to the US public health infrastructure at the national, state, and local levels, for researchers and policymakers alike. The additional investment in both chambers of $10 million in NCHS would allow the agency to create a more responsive twenty-first century statistical agency and reaffirm NCHS's status as the world's gold-standard producer of health statistics. We therefore respectfully request enactment of at least $190.4 million in FY23.

A key lesson of the Covid19 pandemic and being ready for the next public health crisis is to have more timely, frequent, and granular data available on America's health and healthcare. NCHS can more quickly help to fulfill that gap with additional funding for modernization and diversification of its data collection efforts, and for data modeling and analysis capabilities. The Friends of NCHS FY23 priorities document, endorsed by 56 organizations, elaborates on how NCHS can immediately put additional investment to effective use in producing more timely, frequent and granular data.

For more information, visit www.friendsofnchs.org

The Friends of NCHS greatly appreciates the House and Senate Subcommittee's longstanding support of NCHS and the data it produces, and we look forward to continuing to work with you. Thank you for supporting this crucial agency and its role in monitoring the health of our nation.

Sincerely,

1,000 Days, an Initiative of FHI Solutions
Academic Pediatric Association
Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
AcademyHealth
Advocates for Better Children's Diets
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Anthropological Association
American Association for Clinical Chemistry
American Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research
American Association of Colleges of Nursing
American Association on Health and Disability
American College of Clinical Pharmacy
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American Educational Research Association
American Heart Association
American Pediatric Society
American Physical Therapy Association
American Society for Nutrition
American Society for Reproductive Medicine
American Sociological Association
American Statistical Association
Association of Black Cardiologists
Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs
Association of Population Centers
Association of Public Data Users

Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health
Center for Food Allergy & Asthma Research
Consortium of Social Science Associations
Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics
Data Coalition Initiative
Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences
Foundation For Sarcoidosis Research
Healthy Teen Network
Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research
Lakeshore Foundation
March of Dimes
National Association for Public Health Statistics and Information Systems
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National Safety Council
North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition
Pediatric Policy Council
Population Association of America
Power to Decide
Safe States Alliance
Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine
Society for Pediatric Research
University of Colorado Population Center, University of Colorado Boulder
University of Washington's Center for Studies in Demography & Ecology
WE in the World