

December 15, 2005

Mr. Joshua Bolten
Director
Office of Management and Budget
Eisenhower Executive Office Building, Room 252
17th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Mr. Bolton:

We, members of the AIDS Budget and Appropriations Coalition (ABAC), submit our budgetary requests, with rationale, across the portfolio of HIV/AIDS domestic care, treatment, prevention, and research programs for fiscal year 2007. The AIDS Budget and Appropriations Coalition is a workgroup within the Federal AIDS Policy Partnership. As leaders of local, regional, national and global organizations dedicated to HIV/AIDS issues, we write to respectfully request funding for fiscal year 2007 federal HIV/AIDS care and treatment, prevention and research initiatives.

As you begin the important task of preparing the President's budget proposal, we send this letter to you representing hundreds of thousands of individuals in the United States – and millions more abroad – either living with HIV/AIDS or at risk for HIV infection.

We commend the President and Congress for responding to the global epidemic with the Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief. However, the scope of this crisis – both at home and abroad – requires an unprecedented commitment of public resources to end the HIV epidemic. Moreover, the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the U.S. continues to have a devastating impact on minority populations, men who have sex with men (MSM), and the incarcerated.

The FY2007 budget is an opportunity for President Bush to demonstrate unprecedented leadership on this issue and ensure the fiscal health of domestic HIV/AIDS programs in order to reduce the number of new HIV infections and to provide care and treatment for the growing number of HIV-positive individuals. As you begin the President's budget for FY2007, please consider the following critical funding needs of HIV/AIDS, STDs and viral hepatitis programs:

Ryan White CARE Act -- \$2.69 billion

- Title I -- \$788.1 million
- Title II: Care -- \$397 million
- Title II: ADAP -- \$1090.3 million
- Title III -- \$270.5 million
- Title IV -- \$113.25 million
- Part F: AETCs -- \$46 million
- Part F: Dental Reimbursements -- \$19 million
- SPNS: -- \$25 million

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (HIV, STD, TB) -- \$1.5 billion

- HIV Prevention and Surveillance -- \$1.04 billion
- STD Prevention -- \$270 million
- TB Prevention -- \$226 million
- Viral Hepatitis (CDC Division of Viral Hepatitis) -- \$50 million
- Minority HIV/AIDS Initiative (across multiple programs) -- \$610 million

National Institutes of Health -- \$30 billion

- Office of AIDS Research (OAR) -- \$3.1 billion

Per the request of Aaron Lopata of your staff, we have attached data, information and documents that provide professional justification for each of the above figures. Also attached is a comprehensive chart which details funding items for all programs that provide for those living with HIV/AIDS. The chart includes figures for:

- Domestic and international HIV and STD prevention efforts from the CDC;
- HIV/AIDS care and treatment and other programs funded through HRSA (including the Ryan White CARE Act, community health centers and Title X family planning);
- Research activities of the National Institutes of Health (Office of AIDS Research); and
- Housing Opportunities for People With AIDS program.

We realize that the federal government is operating in a constrained budgetary situation and large increases in spending are difficult to achieve. However, millions of lives are at stake here at home and abroad -- funding increases for federal HIV prevention, care and treatment, housing, and research activities should be considered and prioritized.

Thank you for your consideration. Should your staff have any questions, please have them contact Damon Dozier of the National Minority AIDS Council who serves as ABAC chair. He can be reached at (202) 483-6622 or ddozier@nmac.org.

Respectfully submitted,

Advocates for Youth, Washington, DC
AIDS Action Baltimore, Baltimore, MD
AIDS Action Council, Washington, DC
AIDS Alliance for Children Youth and Families, Washington, DC
AIDS Empowerment & Treatment International, Washington, DC
AIDS Foundation of Chicago, Chicago, IL
AIDS Project Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA
American Academy of HIV Medicine, Washington, DC
American Dental Education Association, Washington, DC
American Foundation for AIDS Research, Washington, DC
Americans For Safe Access, Oakland, CA
Bienestar Human Services, Los Angeles, CA
Communities Advocating Emergency AIDS Relief
Community Education Group, Washington, DC

Community HIV/AIDS Mobilization Project (CHAMP), Washington, DC
Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation, Washington, DC
HIV Medicine Association, Washington, DC
Housing Works, New York, NY
Human Rights Campaign, Washington, DC
Latino Commission on AIDS, Washington, DC
Legacy Community Health Services
Nashville CARES, Nashville TN
National AIDS Housing Coalition, Washington, DC
National Association of Community Health Centers, Washington, DC
National Association of People With AIDS, Washington, DC
National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors, Washington, DC
National Family Planning and Reproductive Health Association, Washington, DC
National Minority AIDS Council, Washington DC
Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Washington, DC
Project Inform, San Francisco, CA
San Francisco AIDS Foundation, San Francisco, CA
Title II Community AIDS National Network, Washington, DC
Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States, Washington, DC
The AIDS Institute, Washington, DC
Treatment Action Group

cc:

Aaron Lopata
Office of Management and Budget

Carol Thompson
Office of National AIDS Policy

Attachments:

1. Holtgrave, DR, Curran James. What Works, and What Remains to be Done, in HIV Prevention in the United States.
2. Holtgrave, DR, Pinkerton, Steven, Merson, Michael. Estimating the Cost of HIV-Prevention Needs in the United States.
3. BearingPoint, Health Services Research and Management Group. National Minority AIDS Council Capacity Building Survey Results – Technical Paper.
4. ADAP Working Group, Annual Health Care Costs and Ryan White CARE Act – Title II ADAP Needs Projection