



December 4, 2013

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SUITE 835W  
WASHINGTON, DC 20024

The undersigned 470 national organizations urge you to **replace sequestration with a bipartisan, balanced approach to deficit reduction**. The budget conference opens a critical window to finally enact a responsible fiscal year (FY) 2014 budget that replaces sequestration and reinvests in our eroding national priorities.

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Nondefense discretionary (NDD) programs play a vital role in the health and well-being of our communities and neighbors. Despite the vast array of important services provided through NDD programs—from education and job training, to housing and science, to National Parks and veterans services, to public health, safety and security—these programs have been cut dramatically and disproportionately in recent years as lawmakers work to reduce the deficit, even though experts agree these programs don't contribute to our nation's mid- and longer-term debt problem. In 2014, **NDD funding will be nearly 18 percent below 2010 levels** adjusted only for inflation as a result of cuts made in the 2011 appropriations process and the Budget Control Act, including sequestration.

- Between FY 2010 and 2011, NDD programs were cut by 7 percent on average, with cuts to some programs as deep as 50 percent and many eliminated entirely.
- Under the Budget Control Act's spending caps, these programs have been cut an additional 5 percent between FY 2011 and FY 2014 before sequestration.
- With sequestration and the Budget Control Act spending caps, these programs have been cut an additional 11 percent during the same period.

***These cuts bring funding for NDD programs as a share of our economy to the lowest level on record, with data going back to 1976.***

As illustrated in the new impact report from NDD United, [\*Faces of Austerity\*](#), real Americans are already feeling the negative effects of these cuts across the country and around the world. They are dragging down our economic recovery, denying children educational opportunities, leaving low-income seniors without food, hindering scientific discovery, eroding our infrastructure, threatening our ability to address emergencies around the world, and compromising public health.

Sequestration locks in these devastating cuts for the next eight years. The 57,000 low-income children who have been denied Head Start won't be returning. The four million fewer meals delivered to low-income seniors will be absent again in coming years. The 2,000 grants that could have discovered the next medical breakthrough will go unfunded. The same goes for all the other Americans who have lost opportunities and benefits, been denied services, or faced furloughs. Future years will be worse. In FY 2013, federal agencies searched for ways to minimize the impact of sequestration—using one-time savings or carry over funding to mitigate harm—but many of those options won't be available in FY 2014 and so it will be harder and harder to avoid real harm.

***Simply put, sequestration is not workable. No amount of flexibility, carve outs, or piecemeal fixes will make it so.***

We cannot allow sequestration to continue. Congress has cut more than \$1.6 trillion from discretionary spending and raised approximately \$700 billion in revenues, even before accounting for sequestration.

WORKING TO  
STRENGTHEN AMERICA



The deficit reduction enacted over the past few years has come overwhelmingly from discretionary spending cuts at ratios far beyond those recommended by bipartisan, deficit reduction groups of experts. **Congress must now enact a responsible FY 2014 budget that replaces sequestration with a balanced plan that recognizes the significant cuts already made to discretionary programs.** In so doing, relief from sequestration must be equally balanced between NDD and defense programs, as strong investments in both NDD and defense programs are necessary to keep our country competitive, safe, and secure.

If you have questions about this letter, please contact Emily Holubowich, Executive Director of the Coalition for Health Funding (202-484-1100 or [eholubowich@dc-crd.com](mailto:eholubowich@dc-crd.com)). An electronic copy of this letter, as well as *Faces of Austerity*, is available at [www.nddunited.org](http://www.nddunited.org).

Sincerely,

317 Coalition  
9to5  
AASA: The School Superintendents Association  
Academic Pediatric Association  
Academy of Medical Surgical Nurses  
Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics  
Academy of Radiology Research  
AcademyHealth  
ACRIA (AIDS Community Research Initiative of America)  
Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research  
Advocates for Better Children's Diets  
Aerospace Industries Association  
African American Health Alliance  
Afterschool Alliance  
AIDS Action Baltimore  
AIDS Alliance for Women, Infants, Children, Youth & Families  
AIDS United  
Alaska Wilderness League  
Alliance for Catholic Education  
America Forward  
American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry  
American Academy of Family Physicians  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
American Academy of Physician Assistants  
American Alliance of Museums  
American Anthropological Association  
American Association for Cancer Research  
American Association for Dental Research  
American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy  
American Association for the Advancement of Science  
American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases

American Association for the Treatment of Opioid Dependence  
American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education  
American Association of Colleges of Nursing  
American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine  
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy  
American Association of Community Colleges  
American Association of State Colleges and Universities  
American Association of University Professors (AAUP)  
American Association of University Women (AAUW)  
American Association on Health and Disability  
American Astronomical Society  
American Bird Conservancy  
American Brain Coalition  
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network  
American College of Preventive Medicine  
American College of Surgeons  
American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer  
American Commercial Space Weather Association (ACSWA)  
American Council for School Social Work  
American Council on Rural Special Education  
American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL)  
American Counseling Association  
American Cultural Resources Association  
American Dance Therapy Association  
American Dental Education Association  
American Educational Research Association  
American Federation of School Administrators  
American Federation of Teachers  
American Geophysical Union  
American Heart Association  
American Humanist Association  
American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering  
American Institute of Biological Sciences  
American Library Association  
American Lung Association  
American Mathematical Society  
American Mental Health Counselors Association  
American Meteorological Society  
American Music Therapy Association  
American Nurses Association  
American Occupational Therapy Association  
American Organization of Nurse Executives  
American Pediatric Society  
American Psychiatric Association

American Psychological Association  
American Public Health Association  
American School Counselor Association  
American Sexual Health Association  
American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology  
American Society for Reproductive Medicine  
American Society of Agronomy  
American Society of Clinical Oncology  
American Society of Hematology  
American Society of Nephrology  
American Society of Pediatric Nephrology  
American Society of Plant Biologists  
American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene  
American Society on Aging  
American Sociological Association  
American Thoracic Society  
Americans for Nursing Shortage Relief (ANSR) Alliance  
Americans for the Arts  
America's Service Commissions  
amfAR, The Foundation for AIDS Research  
Arthritis Foundation  
Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization (ADAO)  
Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum  
Association for Ambulatory Behavioral Healthcare  
Association for Career and Technical Education  
Association for Psychological Science  
Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology  
Association of Academic Health Centers  
Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries  
Association of Accredited Public Health Programs  
Association of American Geographers  
Association of American Medical Colleges  
Association of American Universities  
Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges  
Association of Assistive Technology Act Programs  
Association of Clinicians for the Underserved  
Association of Departments of Family Medicine  
Association of Ecosystem Research Centers  
Association of Educational Service Agencies  
Association of Family Medicine Residency Directors  
Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs  
Association of Jesuit Colleges & Universities  
Association of Low/Mid LOT Schools  
Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs

Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs  
Association of Minority Health Professions Schools  
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care  
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities  
Association of Public Health Laboratories  
Association of Rehabilitation Nurses  
Association of Research Libraries  
Association of School Business Officials International  
Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health  
Association of Science-Technology Centers  
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials  
Association of State Public Health Nutritionists  
Association of University Centers on Disabilities  
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses  
Autism National Committee  
AVAC: Global Advocacy for HIV Prevention  
Benetech  
Benign Essential Blepharospasm Research Foundation  
Biophysical Society  
Brain Injury Association of America  
Bread for the World  
Business-Higher Education Forum  
Campaign for Youth Justice  
Campaign to Invest in America's Workforce  
Campus Compact  
Cancer Support Community  
Casa de Esperanza: National Latin@ Network for Healthy Families and Communities  
Center for Effective Government  
Center for Innovation in Health and Human Services  
Center for Reproductive Rights  
Center for Science in the Public Interest  
Centering Healthcare Institute  
ChangeLab Solutions  
Charlene Miers Foundation for Cancer Research  
Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science  
Children's Environmental Health Network  
Children's Leadership Council  
Children's Mental Health Network  
Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation  
City Year, Inc.  
Clean Water Action  
Coalition for Health Funding  
Coalition for the Life Sciences  
Coalition of Higher Education Assistance Organizations

College Possible  
Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service, Inc. (COA)  
Committee for Education Funding  
Community Access National Network - CANN  
Community Action Partnership  
Consortium of Social Science Associations  
Cooley's Anemia Foundation  
Council for Advancement of Adult Literacy  
Council for Children with Behavioral Disorders  
Council for Exceptional Children  
Council for Opportunity in Education  
Council of Administrators of Special Education  
Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists  
Council of State Community Development Agencies  
Council of the Great City Schools  
Council on Social Work Education  
Council on Undergraduate Research  
Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America  
Crop Science Society of America  
CSH  
Defenders of Wildlife  
Directors of Health Promotion and Education  
Disability Policy Consortium  
Division for Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children (DEC)  
Dystonia Advocacy Network  
Dystonia Medical Research Foundation  
Easter Seals  
Ecological Society of America  
Emergency Nurses Association  
Epilepsy Foundation  
Esophageal Cancer Action Network  
Every Child By Two  
Fair Share  
FED ED  
Federation of Associations in Behavioral & Brain Sciences  
Fight Colorectal Cancer  
First Candle  
First Focus Campaign for Children  
Friends of AHRQ  
Friends of NCHS  
Futures Without Violence  
Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC)  
GBS/CIDP Foundation International  
Geological Society of America

Green & Healthy Homes Initiative  
Health Professions and Nursing Education Coalition (HPNEC)  
Healthy Teen Network  
Heartland Alliance  
Hepatitis B Foundation  
Hepatitis Foundation International  
Heritage Preservation  
Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities  
HIV Dental Alliance  
HIV Medicine Association  
HIV Prevention Justice Alliance  
Human Factors and Ergonomics Society  
IDEA Infant Toddlers Coordinators Association (ITCA)  
Infectious Diseases Society of America  
Innocence Project  
Institute for Educational Leadership  
InterAction  
Intercultural Cancer Council Caucus  
International Association of Jewish Vocational Services (IAJVS)  
International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium  
International Myeloma Foundation  
International Reading Association  
Interstitial Cystitis Association  
Jeffrey Modell Foundation  
Joint Advocacy Coalition of ACTS and CR Forum  
Jumpstart for Young Children  
Justice for Families  
Justice Policy Institute  
Knowledge Alliance  
Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights  
LeadingAge  
League of American Orchestras  
League of Conservation Voters  
Learning Disabilities Association of America  
Lifelong  
Local Initiatives Support Corporation  
Long-term Ecological Research Network  
Lupus Foundation of America  
Lupus Research Institute  
Lutheran Services in America  
Lutheran Services in America Disability Network  
Magnet Schools of America  
March of Dimes Foundation  
Marfan Foundation

Meals On Wheels Association of America  
Medical Library Association  
Meharry Medical College  
Mental Health America  
Mercy Housing  
Mesothelioma Applied Research Foundation  
Metropolitan Community Churches  
Military Impacted Schools Association  
MomsRising  
Morehouse School of Medicine  
NAPHSIS  
NARAL Pro-Choice America  
National 8002 Impacted Schools  
National Adult Protective Services Assn.  
National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd  
National Affordable Housing Management Association  
National African American Drug Policy Coalition, Inc.  
National AHEC (Area Health Education Center) Organization  
National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research  
National Alliance of Community Economic Development Associations  
National Alliance of Faith and Justice  
National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD)  
National Alliance on Mental Illness  
National Alopecia Areata Foundation  
National Association of Development Organizations (NADO)  
National Association for College Admission Counseling  
National Association for County Community and Economic Development  
National Association for Music Education  
National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a)  
National Association of Chronic Disease Directors (NACDD)  
National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists  
National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities  
National Association of County and City Health Officials  
National Association of Elementary School Principals  
National Association of Federally Impacted Schools  
National Association of Graduate-Professional Students  
National Association of Local Housing Finance Agencies  
National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs (NANASP)  
National Association of Private Special Education Centers  
National Association of Pupil Services Administrators  
National Association of School Psychologists  
National Association of Secondary School Principals  
National Association of Social Workers  
National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium (NASDCTEC)



National Association of State Directors of Special Education  
National Association of State Head Injury Administrators  
National Association of State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs  
National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities (NASUAD)  
National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers  
National Association of Workforce Development Professionals  
National Black Women's HIV/AIDS Network, Inc.  
National Blood Clot Alliance  
National Center for Healthy Housing  
National Center for Learning Disabilities  
National Center for Technological Literacy at the Museum of Science, Boston  
National Center for Transgender Equality  
National Center on Domestic and Sexual Violence  
National Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
National Coalition for Literacy  
National Coalition for the Homeless  
National Coalition of STD Directors  
National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse  
National Community Development Association  
National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers  
National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care  
National Consumers League  
National Council for Behavioral Health  
National Council for Community and Education Partnerships (NCCEP)  
National Council for Diversity in the Health Professions  
National Council of La Raza (NCLR)  
National Council of State Directors of Adult Education  
National Council of State Housing Agencies  
National Council on Aging  
National Criminal Justice Association  
National Disability Rights Network  
National Domestic Violence Hotline  
National Education Association  
National Employment Law Project  
National Fair Housing Alliance  
National Family Planning & Reproductive Health Association  
National Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health  
National Head Start Association  
National Health Care for the Homeless Council  
National Hemophilia Foundation  
National HEP CAMP Association  
National Hispanic Council on Aging  
National Hispanic Medical Association  
National Housing Conference

National Humanities Alliance  
National Immigration Law Center  
National Indian Health Board  
National Indian Impacted Schools Association  
National Juvenile Justice Network  
National League for Nursing  
National League of Cities  
National Low Income Housing Coalition  
National Multiple Sclerosis Society  
National Network for Youth  
National Network of Public Health Institutes  
National Network to End Domestic Violence  
National Organization for Rare Disorders  
National Parks Conservation Association  
National Psoriasis Foundation  
National PTA  
National Respite Coalition  
National Rural Education Association  
National Rural Health Association  
National Rural Housing Coalition  
National School Boards Association  
National Skills Coalition  
National Spasmodic Dysphonia Association  
National Spasmodic Torticollis Association  
National Superintendents Roundtable  
National Title I Association  
National Tourette Syndrome Association  
National Urban League  
National Violence Prevention Network  
National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable  
National WIC Association  
National Wildlife Federation  
National Writing Project  
Natural Resources Defense Council  
Nemours  
NephCure Foundation  
NETWORK, A National Catholic Social Justice Lobby  
New York Stem Cell Foundation  
North American Primary Care Research Group  
Oncology Nursing Society  
Ovarian Cancer National Alliance  
Pancreatic Cancer Action Network  
Paralyzed Veterans of America  
Parents as Teachers

Parkinson's Action Network  
PHI - Quality Care through Quality Jobs  
Physician Assistant Education Association  
Planned Parenthood Federation of America  
Population Action International  
Population Association of America/Association of Population Centers  
Population Connection  
Population Institute  
Preservation Action  
Prevent Blindness America  
Prevent Cancer Foundation  
Project Inform  
Provincial Council of the Clerics of St. Viator (Viatorians)  
Public Allies Inc  
Public Health Institute  
Pulmonary Hypertension Association  
Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities Coalition  
Reading Partners  
Rebuilding Together  
Research!America  
Restore America's Estuaries  
RESULTS  
Results for America  
Ryan White Medical Providers Coalition  
Safe States Alliance  
Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law  
School Social Work Association of America  
Scleroderma Foundation  
SEDL  
Sexuality Information and Education Council of the U.S. (SIECUS)  
Sierra Club  
Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America  
Society for Historical Archaeology  
Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics  
Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology  
Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine  
Society for Neuroscience  
Society for Pediatric Research  
Society for Public Health Education  
Society for Women's Health Research  
Society of Behavioral Medicine  
Society of General Internal Medicine  
Society of Systematic Biologists  
Society of Teachers of Family Medicine

Soil Science Society of America  
Special Olympics International  
Spina Bifida Association of America  
Stand Up for Rural America  
Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future  
Student Conservation Association  
Susan G. Komen  
Teach For America  
Technical Assistance Collaborative  
TESOL International Association  
The Advocacy Institute  
The AIDS Institute  
The American Society for Cell Biology  
The Arc  
The College Board  
The Community Builders, Inc.  
The Corps Network  
The Education Trust  
The Endocrine Society  
The Global Justice Institute  
The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society  
The National Pancreas Foundation  
The Science Coalition  
The Trust for Public Land  
The Wilderness Society  
Treatment Communities of America  
Trust for America's Health  
Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine, Nursing, and Allied Health  
UNAVCO  
UNCF  
United for Medical Research  
Unity Fellowship Church Movement  
US Climate Action Network  
USAgainstAlzheimer's  
Vera Institute of Justice  
Voices for National Service  
Vradenburg Foundation  
WomenHeart: The National Coalition for Women with Heart Disease  
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution  
World Wildlife Fund  
YMCA of the USA  
Young Invincibles  
YouthBuild USA