October 18, 2007

Dear Senator,

The undersigned education, training, disability, public health, medical research, child welfare organizations and labor unions representing the full range of stakeholders in the programs of the Departments of Education, Health and Human Services and Labor, urge you to vote in favor of the FY 2008 Senate Labor, Health and Human Services, Education Appropriations bill that increases overall funding above the FY 2007 level for these critically important programs.

The programs and services administered by the Departments of Health and Human Services, Education, and Labor serve a broad range of constituencies and needs. They all share a common, fundamental goal of strengthening this nation by investing in and improving the quality of life of its people, especially the most vulnerable. The bill, which received broad, bipartisan support by the Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Appropriations Committee, provides a modest overall increase for programs in the bill, most of which have experienced significant cuts, lost purchasing power, or both over the past three years.

Unfortunately, the FY 2006 Labor, HHS and Education appropriations bill was cut by $1.6 billion. Congress worked to restore some of those cuts in the FY 2007 Joint Resolution but many programs still remain far below their FY 2005 level, and others lost all funding. The President’s misplaced priorities in his FY 2008 budget request continues or deepens cuts for most of the programs in the Labor, HHS, and Education Appropriations bill. America cannot sustain its global scientific and economic leadership, national security and citizens’ health without increasing these investments.

While our organizations represent a wide array of domestic priorities, we are united in our effort to increase discretionary funding substantially for health, education, labor enforcement, job training and social services programs as the appropriations process moves forward. This increased investment is essential to sustain and advance the well-being and prosperity of our nation.

To respond to this letter, please contact Julio C Abreu, President, Coalition for Health Funding: 202-675-8412 (or email at jabreu@nmha.org), or Dr. Edward Kealy, Executive Director, Committee for Education Funding: 202-383-0083 (or email at ekealy@cef.org).

Respectfully,

8CAP, Inc.
Academy for Educational Development
Academy of General Dentistry
Academy of Radiology Research
ACCESS Inc.
ACSET Council
Action for Boston Community Development, Inc.
Action for Eastern Montana
ADVOCAP Inc.
Advocates for EMS
Aeras Global Tuberculosis Vaccine Foundation
Afterschool Alliance
AIDS Action
AIDS Action Committee of Massachusetts

AIDS Alliance for Children, Youth and Families
AIDS Institute
AIDS Leadership Foothills-area Alliance, Inc.
Akron Summit Community Action, Inc.
Alger-Marquette Community Action Board
Alliance for Aging Research
Alliance for Excellent Education
Alliance for Retired Americans
Alpha-1 Association
Alpha-1 Foundation
American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology
American Academy of Family Physicians
American Academy of HIV Medicine
American Academy of Nursing
Community Action New Mexico
Community Action of Laramie County
Community Action of Napa Valley
Community Action of Northeast Indiana, Inc.
Community Action of Southern Kentucky, Inc.
Community Action of the Franklin, Hampshire, and North Quabbin Regions
Community Action Opportunities, Inc.
Community Action Organization of Scioto County
Community Action Partnership (Dickinson, ND)
Community Action Partnership (National)
Community Action Partnership of Cambria County
Community Action Partnership of Dutchess County
Community Action Partnership of Greater St. Joseph
Community Action Partnership of Mercer County, Inc.
Community Action Partnership of Naticna County
Community Action Partnership of Orange County
Community Action Partnership of Oregon
Community Action Partnership of Riverside County
Community Action Partnership of San Bernardino County
Community Action Partnership of the Greater Dayton Area
Community Action Planning Council of Jefferson County, Inc.
Community Action Program Inc. of Western Indiana
Community Action Program of Lancaster County
Community Action Programs Belknap/Merrimack Counties Inc
Community Action Services and Food Bank (Provo, UT)
Community Action Southwest
Community Action Wayne/Medina
Community Action, Inc. (Haverhill, MA)
Community Action, Inc. (Punxsutawney, PA)
Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America
Community Concepts Inc.
Community Development Program of Beaver County
Community Progress Council
Community Service Programs of West Alabama Inc.
Community Services Consortium
Community Services, Inc. (Corsicana, Texas)
Community Services, Inc. of Northwest Missouri
Community-Campus Partnerships for Health
Comprehensive Community Action
Connecticut Federation of School Administrators
Consolidated Agencies of Human Services (CAHS)
Consortium for School Networking.
Consortium of Social Science Associations
Cornell University
Corporation for Ohio Appalachian Development
Cortland County Community Action Program, Inc.
CouleeCap, Inc.
Council for Children with Behavioral Disorders
Council for Economic Opportunities in Greater Cleveland
Council for Exceptional Children
Council for Learning Disabilities
Council for Opportunity in Education
Council of Accredited MPH Programs
Council of Chief State School Officers
Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists
Council of the Great City Schools
County of Essex Division of Community Action
Crawford-Sebastian Community Development Council, Inc.
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
Dakota Prairie Community Action Agency, Inc.
Daniel Boone Community Action Agency, Inc.

Darkness to Light
Darlington County Community Action Agency
Decatur-Macon County Opportunities Corporation
Deep Fork Community Action, Inc.
Deep South Education and Research Center
DeKalb County Community Services Department
Delaware Opportunities
Diabetes Care Coalition
Dickinson Iron Community Services Agency
Digestive Disease National Coalition
Division for early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children
Douglas-Cherokee Economic Authority, Inc.
Dubois-Pike-Warrick Economic Opportunity Committee, Inc.
Dystonia Medical Research Foundation
E.C.K.A.N.
Easter Seals
Eastern Idaho Community Action Partnership
Eastern Plains Community Action Agency
Eastern Shore Area Agency on Aging/Community Action Agency
East Missouri Action Agency
Economic Opportunity Commission of San Luis Obispo County, Inc.
Economic Opportunity Committee of St. Clair County, Inc
Economic Opportunity Council of Suffolk, Inc.
Education Industry Association
Emergency Nurses Association
Empowering Our Communities in NM
Energy CENTS Coalition - Minnesota
Energy Outreach Colorado
EOA of Washington County
Epilepsy Foundation
Erie-Huron Counties Community Action Commission, Inc.
FAIR Foundation
Fairfield University
Families USA
Family Connection Center
Fayette County Community Action Corp
FED ED
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology
First Focus
First State Community Action Agency, Inc.
Florida Association for Community Action Agencies
Foothills Community Action Partnership
Foundation Fighting Blindness
Frederick Community Action Agency
Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission
Friends of Cancer Research
Fulmont Community Action Agency, Inc.
Garrett County Community Action Committee, Inc.
Gateway Community Action
Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network
General Clinical Research Centers Program Directors Association
Genetics Society of America
George Mason University
Georgetown University
Georgia Community Action Association
Gogebic-Ontonagon Community Action Agency
Grace Church Community Center
Greater Erie Community Action Committee
Greater Lawrence Community Action Council, Inc.
Hancock- Hardin Wyandot Putnam Counties Community Action Commission
Scranton Lackawanna Human Development Agency
Seattle University
Self-Help Home Improvement Project
Shawnee Development Council, Inc.
Sjögren’s Syndrome Foundation
Skagit County Community Action Agency
Skyline Community Action Program, Inc.
Society for Investigative Dermatology
Society for Neuroscience
Society for Pediatric Research
Society for Public Health Education
Society of Gynecologic Oncologists
Society of Hospital Medicine
Society of Teachers of Family Medicine
Solid Ground
Somerset Community Action Program
South Central Community Action Programs, Inc.
South Central Human Resource Agency
South Central Missouri Community Action Agency
Southeast Kansas Community Action Program
Southeast Nebraska Community Action Council, Inc.
Southeastern Indiana Economic Opportunity Corporation
Southeastern North Dakota Community Action Agency
Southeastern Tidewater Opportunities Project (STOP Organization)
Southeastern Vermont Community Action
Southern California Forum
Southern California Occupational Safety and Health
Southern New Hampshire Services, Inc.
Southwest Michigan Community Action Agency
Southwest Mississippi Opportunity, Inc.
Southwestern Minnesota Opportunity Council, Inc.
Southwestern Wisconsin Community Action Program
Spokane Neighborhood Action Programs
Spring Hill College
Springfield Partners for Community Action
St. Clair County Intergovernmental Grants/Community Action Agency
St. Mary-Vermilion Community Action Agency
Stark County Community Action Agency
State Associations of Addiction Services
State of Hawaii - LIHEAP
Stony Brook University Medical Center
Stop Family Violence
Student National Medical Association
Suicide Prevention Action Network USA
Sunbelt Human Advancement Resources, Inc.
Sunflower-Humphreys Counties Progress, Inc.
Sunshine ERC at University of South Florida
Support to Eliminate Poverty (STEP)
Supports to Encourage Low-income Families
TEAM Inc.
Telamon Corporation
Tempe Community Action Agency
Tennessee Association of Community Action
Texas Legal Services Center
The 317 Coalition
The Access Community Action Agency
The Association of Secondary School Principals
The Agricultural and Labor Program, Inc.
The AIDS Legal Referral Panel
The American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering
The Arc of the U.S.
The Community Action Organization of Delaware, Madison &
Union Counties, Inc.
The Heart Rhythm Society
The National High School Equivalency Program
The Pennsylvania State University
The State Educational Technology Directors Association
The United Planning Organization
Three Rivers Community Action, Inc.
Tioga Opportunities, Inc.
Title II Community AIDS National Network
Tourette Syndrome Association
Treatment Action Group
Trehab
Tri-City Community Action Program, Inc.
Tri-County Action Program, Inc
Tri-County Community Action Agency
Tri-County Community Action Partnership
Tri-County Community Action Program
Tri-County Community Action serving Champaign, Logan and
Shelby counties of Ohio
Tri-County Community Action, Inc.
Tri-County Opportunities Council
Trust for America’s Health
Tulane University
Two Rivers Head Start Agency
Two Rivers Regional Council of Public Officials
U.S. Public Interest Research Group
Uintah Basin Association of Governments
UMOS
Umpqua Community Action Network
Union County Department of Human Services, Division of
Planning
United Cerebral Palsy
United Community Corporation
United Passaic Organization
United Progress, Inc.
United Spinal Association
United States Student Association
University of Central Florida
University of Chicago
University of Cincinnati
University of Minnesota
University of Oregon
University of Pittsburgh
University of Utah
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Upper Des Moines Opportunity
Upper East TN Human Development Agency
US Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association
USA Works!
USAction
Utah Community Action Partnership Association
Venture, Inc.
Virginia CARES, Inc.
Virginia Commonwealth University
Virginia Community Action Partnership
Virginia Head Start Association
Vision Council of America
VSA Arts
Wabash Area Development, Inc
Warren County Community Services, Inc.
Warren Forest Counties Economic Opportunity Council