The Unified Voice for Health Investments

For more than 45 years, the Coalition for Health Funding has been the leading voice in strengthening public health and health research through education and advocacy. Our dues-paying, nonprofit member organizations represent the interests of more than 100 million patients and consumers, health providers, professionals, and researchers.

With the collective appreciation that “a rising tide lifts all boats,” Coalition members work collaboratively to promote funding for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), its principle agencies—Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Indian Health Service, National Institutes of Health (NIH), Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Administration for Community Living (ACL)—operating divisions, and offices and programs that support and protect America’s health. Together, these investments spur innovation through scientific discovery, prevent disease, disability, and injury, assure food and drug safety, protect and respond in times of crisis, educate the next generation of scientists, health care providers and public health professionals, and provide our nation’s most vulnerable access to care.

The Coalition works to educate and inform lawmakers and advocates about all aspects of the federal budget process—from the preparation of the president’s budget to the development of appropriations bills—as well as all macro fiscal policies that stand to impact public health and health research.

Advocacy and Outreach Activities

The Coalition for Health Funding had several achievements this year that helped to promote the health community’s funding priorities. Each year, the Coalition tracks its activities and provides a report to its members. The following report outlines the Coalition’s activities and accomplishments in greater detail.

Letters and Statements

The Coalition for Health Funding undertook several activities to promote our health funding priorities on Capitol Hill and within the administration. We drafted 20 letters and statements in response to the House, Senate, and President’s budgets and appropriations proposals, threats to the Prevention and Public Health Fund, and more.

Copies of the Coalition’s letters and statements are available at: https://www.publichealthfunding.org/correspondence/

Earned and Social Media

The Coalition for Health Funding’s media presence continued this year with Executive Director Emily Holubowich being quoted nine times in various media outlets including The Washington Post, Politico, The Hill, Congressional Quarterly, and other trade publications regarding federal funding for public health programs, as well as the federal budget.

The Coalition’s social media presence was enhanced in 2018, as well. In our sixth year on Twitter, @healthfunding now has grown to 3,102 followers, a 21 percent increase from 2017. The Coalition also began expanding its social media reach to include Facebook and Instagram. The Coalition aims to continue to grow our followership across social media platforms in the coming years.

Public Health Fair

Together with the Congressional Public Health Caucus, the Coalition for Health Funding held its third annual Public Health Fair on Capitol Hill, where Coalition members and federal Public Health Service agencies hosted booths to educate members of Congress and their staff about the public health continuum. This event drew more than 300 attendees. Altogether, there were more than 30 educational booths, representing the breadth of federal public health programs, where attendees could gather information and participate in interactive activities, such as holding a human brain or experiencing the virtual reality that is helping burn patients.

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For the third year, the Coalition for Health Funding led a delegation of nearly 20 members to tour the CDC’s headquarters in Atlanta. Coalition members had the opportunity to meet with senior leadership across the agency and visit areas typically closed to the public, including the Emergency Operations Center, the insectary, and the pathology and environmental health laboratories. Participants came away with a greater appreciation of the agency and its broad mission to protect and promote public health.

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2018 Year in Review

COALITION for HEALTH FUNDING

www.publichealthfunding.org
At a Glance...

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Among the 2018 achievements and offerings to member organizations, the Coalition for Health Funding:

• Met face-to-face with more than 50 policymakers, including Members of Congress.

• Issued 20 letters and statements to protect and promote health funding;

• Hosted the Coalition for Health Funding’s third annual Public Health Fair, allowing members and public health agencies to showcase their work to more than 300 visitors;

• Organized a Hill briefing about the continuum of public health security with the Congressional Public Health Caucus that promoted health funding and the Coalition’s brand visibility on Capitol Hill;

• Led a delegation of members to Atlanta for the Coalition’s third annual tour of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and led the first delegation of members for a tour of the National Institutes of Health (NIH);

• Led the community in NDD United’s efforts to secure the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 that increased the budget caps by $131 billion and Department of Health and Human Services appropriations by 16 percent—the largest single funding increase for domestic programs since the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009;

• Kept our members informed about federal funding developments through the intelligence and expert analysis provided in our daily e-newsletter, the “Member Update.”
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Snapshot of Outreach Activities, 2018</th>
<th>No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Congressional Meetings*</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration Meetings**</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Events***</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letters, Statements****</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media Appearances</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twitter Followers</td>
<td>3,102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grassroots Toolkits</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Includes Executive Director and Board meetings with committee and leadership staff, as well as Hill Day meetings and conference calls with lawmakers.
**Includes Executive Director and Board meetings with administration staff as well as meetings open to all members.
***Includes Meetings of Members, Public Health 101 Briefing, NDD Town Halls, Public Health Fair, and agency tours.
****Includes Coalition for Health Funding letters and statements (20), as well as those of our campaign, NDD United (5).
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COALITION for HEALTH FUNDING

Emily J. Holubowich, MPP, Executive Director

March 8, 2018

The Honorable Roy Blunt
Chairman
Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies
U.S. Senate

The Honorable Patty Murray
Ranking Member
Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies
U.S. Senate

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives

Dear Chairman Blunt, Ranking Member Murray, Chairman Cole, and Ranking Member DeLauro:

The Coalition for Health Funding—on behalf of its 95 member organizations representing the full breadth of constituent support for discretionary health programs—strongly urges you to work in earnest to enact final, omnibus spending legislation for fiscal 2018 that includes all spending bills, especially the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill (Labor-HHS). As the largest of the nondefense discretionary spending bills, and the bill that touches

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NDD United

In our sixth consecutive year leading the NDD United campaign, the Coalition helped to secure the largest increase in domestic funding since the enactment of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. With the passage of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018, Congress increased the budget caps by $131 billion over two years. This additional domestic funding allowed for an overall increase for the Department of Health and Human Services of nearly 16 percent.

Our work founding and leading NDD United afforded the Coalition greater visibility throughout the community, Capitol Hill, the White House, and the media as a leading voice in the budget debate. NDD United:

- Organized an NDD United Town Hall featuring Rep. Charlie Dent and budget expert, “@TheBudgetGuy” Stan Collender (February)
- Developed and distributed a “BBA Thank You” Toolkit (February)
- Developed and distributed a one-pager on the Budget and Impoundment Control Act and rescissions (April)

In support of NDD United’s operations, Coalition for Health Funding staff continued to build relationships in the community, bringing the total number of subscribers on the distribution list to more than 800. In addition, Coalition staff spearheaded the campaign’s fundraising, organized events, managed the Twitter account @NDDUnited, which ended the year with 938 followers (83 new followers added in 2018), and drafted five letters and statements in response to fiscal policy.

Copies of NDD United's statements are available at: http://www.nddunited.org/action/.

This year, at the direction of the Coalition for Health Funding Board of Directors, the Coalition transitioned staffing and daily operations of the campaign to Coalition for Health Funding member and NDD United Steering Committee member, the American Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.
The Coalition also led a delegation of 17 laboratories. Participants came away with a tour of the Emergency Operations Center, the insectary, and CDC’s headquarters in Atlanta. Coalition members met with members of Congress and their staff about the public health continuum. This event allowed members and federal Public Health Service agencies to host booths to educate the public about health issues.

For the third year, the Coalition for Health Funding hosted an Agency Tour that could gather information and participate in interactive activities, such as holding a public health fair with booths and displays. The tour aimed to educate the public about the importance of public health and the roles of various federal agencies in maintaining health security.

The Coalition for Health Funding had several achievements this year that helped to promote the health community’s funding priorities. Each year, the Coalition tracks its progress and compares it to the previous year to determine its impact. This year, the Coalition was able to maintain its dues revenue and ultimately grow its reserve for the third year in a row. The Coalition ended the year with 92 members, a slight increase from the previous year. The Coalition did not meet its strategic goal of attracting new members, but it was able to maintain its current membership base.

In 2018, the Coalition for Health Funding Board of Directors met quarterly and oversaw the organization’s administrative activities and provided input on strategy. The Coalition was able to maintain its staff and services through the revamping of its website and social media presence. The Coalition’s website and social media platforms were enhanced in 2018, as well. In our sixth year of operations, the Coalition’s website was able to reach nearly 300,000 unique visitors, and its social media presence was enhanced through the addition of Facebook and Instagram. The Coalition aims to continue to grow its social media reach and other forms of outreach in the coming years.

As a service to its members, the Coalition for Health Funding organizes educational meetings, informal networking events, and briefings with policymakers and experts. Meetings this year included:

- “Budget Boot Camp” training with Emily Holubowich (January)
- Hill Day (March)
- Board Meeting with Representative Raul Ruiz (March)
- “Public Health 101” Congressional Briefing on Health Security (March)
- Meeting with the Public Health Team at the Office of Management and Budget (May)
- Meeting with Majority Clerk of the Senate Labor-HHS Subcommittee (May)
- “Digital Advocacy 101” with Reingold (June)
- Members Only Happy Hour (June)
- Community Call with Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro (June)
- “Research for Dummies” training (July)
- Meeting with the Health Care Team at Office of Management and Budget (September)
- Third Annual Public Health Fair (September)
- Community Call with Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro (September)
- CDC Tour (October)
- “Post-Election Analysis” with Third Way (November)
- NIH Tour (November)
- “Party Like It’s 1994” Happy Hour (November)
- “Professional Wellness in Crazy Times: The Value of Coaching for Policy and Advocacy Professionals” with John Sawyer (November)
- Annual Business Meeting (December)
Intelligence Sharing
Throughout the year, Coalition members received via the “Member Update” emails important intelligence and analysis on issues related to federal budget and appropriations, including reminders about key dates, bill text and reports, and related white papers and policy briefs, as well as “breaking news” alerts. Coalition members in 2018 received nearly 300 such emails.

Guest Speaker Appearances
As a service to members, Coalition for Health Funding staff frequently speak at members’ conferences, webinars, and other events at their request. This year, Coalition staff spoke at eight such events on topics related to fiscal policy and best practices in advocacy and communications.

New Opportunities
This year, the Coalition started providing two new services in response to member requests. Specifically, members were invited to join monthly “Member Update Live” conference calls to discuss the latest intelligence on health appropriations, and quarterly “Coffee Talks” with the Coalition Board of Directors.

Administration
In 2018, the Coalition for Health Funding Board of Directors met quarterly and oversaw the Coalition’s activities and operations. Chief among this year’s administrative activities was the revamping of the Coalition’s website, www.publichealthfunding.org. In addition to building a more modernized and easily navigated site, we added new features, including a public calendar of events to promote Coalition for Health Funding events and those of our members, a blog, pages for budget and appropriations resources, and an online career center to promote job opportunities at member organizations.

The Coalition started 2018 with 90 members—down eight members from the previous year. As a result of the recruitment efforts of our Board, members, and staff, the Coalition ended the year with 92 members. The Coalition did not meet its strategic goal of 100 members, but will continue to strive toward that goal in 2019, when the federal fiscal environment may increase membership value.

Because of strong member recruitment and retention, the Coalition for Health Funding was able to maintain its dues revenue and ultimately grow its reserve for the third consecutive year. Further, the Coalition for Health Funding Board proposed, and the membership approved, a 3 percent annual dues increase through 2024 that will allow the Coalition to continue to meet its obligations and build on the reserve fund going forward.

The Coalition for Health Funding Board of Directors maintains the goal for the reserve to establish a minimum reserve of $100,000 to sustain the Coalition’s staff and services for three months in the event of a financial hardship. The Coalition for Health Funding has continued to contribute to the reserve fund, but will not meet this goal by the end of 2019.