Subject: FY2015 Funding for Domestic HIV/AIDS Programs

Dear Chairwoman Mikulski, Ranking Member Shelby, Chairman Rogers, and Ranking Member Lowey:

On behalf of the AIDS Budget and Appropriations Coalition (ABAC), we urge you to prioritize domestic HIV/AIDS funding as you work to resolve FY2015 funding. We appreciate your strong continued commitment to addressing HIV/AIDS in the United States. Continued resources from the federal government are essential to achieving goals of the National HIV/AIDS Strategy and to move towards an AIDS-free generation. We understand that we are in difficult budgetary times, but we ask that you keep the needs of people living with HIV/AIDS forefront in your minds as you work to finalize FY2015 funding.

Failure to continue our nation’s investment in a health care safety-net and to support prevention, care and treatment and research programs will result in significant increases in HIV infections; higher hospital and emergency room costs and diminished hope for a cure and/or vaccine to eventually eradicate HIV. Furthermore, because we now know effective HIV treatment prevents HIV transmission, comprehensive care for people living with HIV is vital to our nation’s public health and has the potential to dramatically decrease new HIV infections in the US. The vital, enabling services that include case management, medical nutrition therapy and treatment adherence services are crucial to the health of people living with HIV.

In addition, delays in the resolution of FY2015 funding have a serious impact on the ground. Partial awards limit grantees’ ability to plan and respond quickly and nimbly to emerging trends in the epidemic.

We urge you to:
1. Fully Fund the Ryan White Program:
   - Part A: $656 million
   - Part B (Care): $415 million
   - Part B (ADAP): $900 million
   - Part C: $215 million
   - Part D: $75 million
   - Part F/AETC: $34 million
   - Part F/Dental: $13 million
   - Part F/SPNS: $25 million

Please note that ABAC does not support the consolidation of the Ryan White Program Part C and Part D, which was proposed in the President’s Budget.

2. Increase Funding to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Division of HIV Prevention, Division of Adolescent and School Health, Division of STD Prevention and Division of Viral Hepatitis in line with the President's request:
   - Division of HIV Prevention and Surveillance: $762 million
   - Division of Adolescent and School Health: $34 million
   - Division of STD Prevention: $158 million
   - Division of Viral Hepatitis: $31 million

3. Fund HIV/AIDS Research at the National Institutes of Health (NIH):
   - HIV Research at NIH: $3.05 billion

4. Increase Funding for Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA):
   - HOPWA: $332 million

5. Ensure full funding for the Minority AIDS Initiative, which is a component of multiple programs.

6. End the Ban on Access to Sterile Syringes:
   - We urge you to end the ban on the use of federal funds for syringe exchange programs and to maintain language that allows the use of local funds for syringe exchange programs in the District of Columbia.

7. Support Adolescent Sexual Health Promotion Programs:
   - Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative: $105 million
   - No funding for harmful abstinence-only-until-marriage programs.

While these requests only represent a portion of what’s required to end the HIV epidemic, we request that you fully fund these programs. This will assure that we can make progress towards eliminating new infections while providing care for people living with HIV/AIDS.

We cannot afford to retreat in our battle against HIV and AIDS and to end support for the health care safety-net programs that are vital to millions of the most vulnerable Americans. Should you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact ABAC Co-Chairs.
Sincerely,

1917 Outpatient HIV/AIDS Clinic at UAB
Access AIDS Network
AccessMatters
ActionAIDS
ADAP Advocacy Association
African American AIDS Task Force
African American Health Alliance
African Services Committee
African-American Outreach Initiative (AAOI) of Atlanta, GA.
AIDS Alabama
AIDS Alliance for Women, Infants, Children, Youth & Families
AIDS Coalition of Southwestern Pennsylvania
AIDS Foundation of Chicago
AIDS Legal Assistance Project, Public Law Center
AIDS Legal Council of Chicago
AIDS Legal Referral Panel
AIDS Network of WNY
AIDS Partnership Michigan
AIDS Project Los Angeles
AIDS Research Consortium of Atlanta
AIDS Resource Alliance
AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin
AIDS Resource Center Ohio
AIDS Service Center
AIDS Services Foundation Orange County
AIDS Task Force
AIDS United
Alabaster
Albany Damien Center
Aletheia House
All Under One Roof LGBT Advocates of S.E. Idaho Inc.
Alliance of AIDS Services- Carolina
ALPHA Pittsburgh, Inc.
American Academy of HIV Medicine (AAHIVM)
American Psychological Association
Amida Care, Inc.
APAIT (Asian Pacific AIDS Intervention Team)
APLA Health & Wellness
Arkansas HIV Planning Group
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care
Aunt Rita’s Foundation
AVAC
AVITWEC
Baltimore Student Harm Reduction Coalition
Being Alive
Beyond Care Inc NFP
Blue Mountain Heart to Heart
BOOM!Health
Borihquen Healthcare
Bridging Access to Care, Inc
Brooklyn Community Pride Center
CALOR, a Division of Anixter Center
CAMBA
Camden AHEC
CAMP Rehoboth
Capitol City Family Health Center
Caring Choices
Cascade AIDS Project
Catholics for Choice
Center for Pan Asian Community Services
Center for Women Policy Studies
Center on Halsted
CenterLink: The Community of LGBT Centers
Chicago Women's AIDS Project
CHOICES. Memphis Center for Reproductive Health
Clare Housing
Communities Advocating Emergency AIDS Relief Coalition
Community Access National Network-CANN
Community Networks, Inc.
Community Servings
Compass
Concilio Latino de Salud, Inc.
Council on Substance Abuse-NCADD
Delaware HIV Consortium
Drive for Universal Healthcare (DUH)
El Punto en la Montana
El/La Para TransLatinas
Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation
Food & Friends, Inc.
Frannie Peabody Center
Friends For Life
FSM Department of Health & Social Affairs
Gay and Lesbian Services Organization
Georgia AIDS Coalition
Georgia Equality
Global Justice Institute
GMHC
God's Love We Deliver, Inc
Haymarket Center
Healing with CAARE
Health Emergency Lifeline Programs
Healthy Teen Network
Heartland Health Outreach, Inc.
Hennepin County
HIV ACCESS
HIV Dental Alliance
HIV Medicine Association
HIV Prevention Justice Alliance
HIV/AIDS Law Project
HIV/AIDS Services for African Americans in Alaska
HIV/HCV Resource Center
Homeless Health Care Los Angeles
Hope and Help Center of Central Florida
Horizon Health Center
Howard Brown Health Center
Hudson Pride Connections Center
International AIDS Empowerment
IV CHARIS
Karibu House
Lansing Area AIDS Network
Legacy Community Health Services
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Community Center, NYC
Let's Kick ASS—AIDS Survivor Syndrome
LGBT Center of Raleigh
Lifelong AIDS Alliance
LLHC (Louisiana Latino Health Coalition for HIV/AIDS Awareness)
Long Island Minority AIDS Coalition
Los Angeles LGBT Center
Louisiana AIDS Advocacy Network
Louisiana Public Health Institute
Metro TeenAIDS
Metro Wellness and Community Centers
Michigan AIDS Coalition
Michigan Positive Action Coalition (MI-POZ)
Migrant Health Center, Inc.
Milwaukee LGBT Community Center
Minnesota AIDS Project
Mississippi Center for Justice
Moveable Feast
Nashville CARES
National AIDS Housing Coalition
National Alliance for HIV Education and Workforce Development
National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors
National Association of County and City Health Officials
National Association of Social Workers
National Coalition of STD Directors
National Family Planning and Reproductive Health Association
National Minority AIDS Council
National Working Positive Coalition
New Age Services Corp.
New Jersey Association on Correction
NJCRI
NO/AIDS Task Force
North Carolina Harm Reduction Coalition
North Central Texas Planning Council
North County LGBTQ Resource Center
OASIS
Ohio AIDS Coalition
One Heartland
Open Aid Alliance
Open Door Clinic
Orange County HIV/AIDS Advocacy Team
Paciente de Sida pro Politica Sana
Pacific Pride Foundation
Park House
Phoenix Pride LGBT Center
Pierce County AIDS Foundation
Positive Impact, Inc
Positive Women in Action (PWA)  
Positive Women's Network - USA  
PowerSource Tucson, Inc  
Pozabilities  
Pride Center of Vermont  
Pridelines Youth Services  
Priority Health Care  
Project Hard Hat  
Project Hospitality  
Project Inform  
Project TAG (Tyler Area Gays)  
Public Law Center  
Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities Coalition  
RAIN  
Rainbow Center  
Ruth Ellis Center, Inc.  
Ryan White Medical Providers Coalition  
Saint Louis Effort for AIDS  
Salaam Legal Network and Citizens Council for Human Rights  
San Francisco AIDS Foundation  
San Joaquin AIDS Foundation  
San Luis Obispo Co. AIDS Support Network  
Santa Fe Mountain Center/Adventure Out  
Sexuality Information and Education Council of the U.S. (SIECUS)  
Sierra Foothills AIDS Foundation  
Siouxland Community Health Center  
Society for Rural Basic Need-Srabon  
South MS AIDS Task Force  
Southern HIV/AIDS Strategy Initiative (SASI)  
Southern NH HIV/AIDS Task Force  
Southwest Center for HIV/AIDS  
St. Ann's Corner of Harm Reduction  
St. Mary Medical Center  
Stamford CARES  
START at Westminster  
Taskforce Prevention and Community Services  
Test Positive Aware Network  
The ACCESS Network, Inc.  
The Afiya Center  
The AIDS Institute  
The Atlanta Harm Reduction Coalition, Inc.  
The Cave Institute  
The Center: 7 Rivers LGBTQ Connection  
The DC Center for the LGBT Community  
The Hope and Help Center  
The Living Affected Corporation  
The Meehle Law Firm, P.A.  
The Montrose Center  
The Well Project  
Triangle Community Center  
Triumphant Life Services Foundation  
Tulsa CARES  
University of Central Florida  
Uganda Fisheries and Fish Conservation Association (UFFCA)  
Unity Fellowship Church of Christ Philadelphia  
University of IL College of Medicine - Heart of IL HIV/AIDS  
Valley AIDS Council  
VillageCare  
Washington AIDS Partnership  
Wateree AIDS Task Force  
Western North Carolina AIDS Project  
Wisconsin HIV Primary Care Support Network  
Woodhull Sexual Freedom Alliance  

CC: House Appropriations Committee  
Senate Appropriations Committee