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Testimony submitted for the record on May 11, 2022
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education, and Related Agencies

APHA is a diverse community of public health professionals that champions the health of all people and communities. We are pleased to submit our request of at least \$11 billion for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and at least \$9.8 billion for the Health Resources and Services Administration in FY 2023. Robust funding for CDC and HRSA programs that promote public health and prevention, support surveillance of infectious disease and bolster America's public health workforce will be critical in addressing both the short-term and long-term health impacts of COVID-19 and the many other health challenges we face as a nation. We are thankful for the emergency supplemental funding provided to CDC and HRSA to support the nation's response to COVID-19 and we urge the committee to ensure that all CDC and HRSA programs are adequately funded in FY 2023.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: CDC provides the foundation for our state and local public health departments, supporting a trained workforce, laboratory capacity and public health education communications systems. It is notable that more than 70% of CDC's budget supports public health and prevention activities by state and local health organizations and agencies, national public health partners and academic institutions. We urge a funding level of at least \$11 billion in FY 2023. We are grateful for the important increases provided for CDC programs in FY 2022 and for the critical emergency funding provided to the agency to address COVID-19. We urge Congress to build upon these investments to strengthen all of CDC's programs, many of which remain woefully underfunded. We also urge your continued support for the Prevention and Public Health Fund which currently makes up nearly 11% of CDC's budget.

CDC serves as the command center for the nation's public health defense system against emerging and reemerging infectious diseases as well as man-made and natural disasters. From playing a leading role in aiding in the surveillance, detection and mitigation of the COVID-19 pandemic in the U.S. and globally, to monitoring and investigating other disease outbreaks, to pandemic flu preparedness, CDC is the nation's – and a global – expert resource and response center, coordinating communications and action and serving as the laboratory reference center. States, communities and international partners rely on CDC for accurate information, direction and resources to ensure they can prepare, respond and recover from a crisis or disease outbreak.

We strongly support the president's budget request for an additional \$400 million, for a total of \$600 million, in funding to bolster core public health infrastructure and capacity at the federal, state, territorial and local levels. This flexible funding is critical to addressing the gaps in core public health infrastructure and capacity at all levels as well as ensuring our nation's health departments are able to attract and retain experienced leaders and respond to future public health

Health Resources and Services Administration: HRSA is the primary federal agency dedicated to improving health outcomes and achieving health equity. HRSA's 90-plus programs and more than 3,000 grantees support tens of millions of geographically isolated, economically or medically vulnerable people, in every U.S. state and territory, to achieve improved health outcomes by increasing access to quality health care and services; fostering a health care workforce able to address current and emerging needs; enhance population health and address health disparities through community partnerships; and promote transparency and accountability within the health care system.

We are grateful for the increases provided for HRSA programs in FY 2022 and for the emergency supplemental funding to battle the COVID-19 pandemic, but HRSA's discretionary budget authority is far too low to effectively address the nation's current public health and health care needs. We recommend Congress build upon the important increases they provided HRSA in FY 2022 and provide at least \$9.8 billion for the Health Resources and Services Administration in FY 2023.

HRSA programs and grantees are providing innovative and successful solutions to some of the nation's greatest health care challenges including the rise in maternal mortality, the severe shortage of health professionals, the high cost of health care and behavioral health issues related to substance use disorders— including opioid misuse. Additional funding will allow HRSA to build upon these successes and pave the way for new achievements by supporting critical HRSA **programs**, including:

Primary Health Care that supports more than 13,500 health center sites which provide high quality primary care services to nearly 29 million people and reduce barriers such as cost, lack of insurance, distance and language for their patients.

Health Workforce supports the health workforce across the training continuum by strengthening the workforce and connecting skilled professionals to communities in need. Programs such as the Public Health Training Centers assess and respond to critical workforce needs through training, technical assistance and student support.

Maternal and Child Health

