



Statement for the Record

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Submitted to the Senate Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education,
and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations

**Regarding FY 2027 Appropriations for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
May 21, 2026**

Chair Capito, Ranking Member Baldwin, and Members of the Subcommittee:

The Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America (AAFA) appreciates the opportunity to submit this statement for the record in support of **\$40 million for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Asthma Control Program (NACP)** in the FY 2027 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies appropriations bill.

We are especially grateful to the Subcommittee for preserving funding for the NACP in FY 2026, recognizing its critical role in protecting public health and supporting communities across the country.

AAFA is the leading patient organization for people with asthma and allergies and the oldest asthma and allergy patient group in the world. We are dedicated to improving the quality of life for people with allergic diseases and asthma through education, support, advocacy and research.

Asthma is one of the most common and costly diseases in the U.S., affecting nearly 28 million Americans, including about 5 million children. The total economic cost of asthma in the United States was about \$82 billion per year from 2008 to 2013, or \$116 billion in CPI-adjusted dollars in 2026. Without prevention, costs will rise—especially for emergency care and hospitalizations.

The National Asthma Control Program is the **only federal program dedicated to asthma prevention and surveillance**. Since its inception, NACP has partnered with state health departments to reduce asthma deaths, hospitalizations, and emergency department visits, while improving asthma surveillance and supporting community-based interventions. This program has demonstrated a **strong return on investment—saving**



\$71 for every \$1 spent—by reducing preventable emergency care costs and enabling families to manage asthma more effectively.

The NACP fills a unique and irreplaceable role in our nation's public health

infrastructure. No other federal program provides asthma-specific surveillance, technical assistance, or capacity-building to states and communities. Despite this, the FY27 President's Budget request proposes to eliminate the program entirely. Eliminating the NACP leaves a dangerous gap in our chronic disease prevention strategy at a time when asthma remains the most common chronic disease in children. Many state asthma programs rely entirely on NACP funding to operate, making it a critical lifeline for delivering evidence-based interventions that improve health outcomes and reduce costs.

Congress has the authority and responsibility to protect public health programs like the NACP. **We urge the Subcommittee to fund the NACP at \$40M in FY27** and to reject proposals that reduce or eliminate CDC's capacity to support chronic disease prevention—particularly asthma.

Without federal support, communities across the country will lose essential asthma education and surveillance infrastructure, putting millions of Americans—particularly children, low-income families, and veterans—at greater risk. The proposal to eliminate NACP contradicts the Administration's stated priority to reduce chronic illness and improve health outcomes.

The asthma community stands ready to partner with Congress to ensure that CDC's asthma prevention efforts are not only preserved but strengthened. We respectfully request the Subcommittee's leadership in protecting this vital program in FY 2027.

Thank you for your consideration.