



Friends of NCBDDD Advocacy Coalition

In Support of the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities

Friends of NCBDDD Advocacy Coalition FY2013 Recommendation National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

The Friends of NCBDDD Advocacy Coalition is a collaboration of over 40 organizations that support the extraordinary work of the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD). We urge Congress and the Administration to maintain the integrity of the NCBDDD during these challenging budget times by providing funding of \$137.3 million in Fiscal Year 2013. Ensuring stable, adequate funding and maintaining the current structure and programmatic focus represents a sound public investment that will continue to prevent birth defects and developmental disabilities and help people with disabilities and blood disorders live the healthiest life possible.

The NCBDDD Public Health Mission

Established by the U.S. Congress in 2000 (P.L. 106-310), the NCBDDD impacts the health of millions of our nation's most vulnerable citizens: infants and children, people with disabilities, and people with blood disorders. It is the only CDC Center whose mission focuses on these populations. The NCBDDD was funded at \$143.7 million in FY 2010; \$136 million in FY 2011; and \$137.3 million in FY 2012. The President's Budget proposes \$125.6 million, an \$11.7 million reduction for FY 2013. To achieve its mission, NCBDDD works to:

- Identify the causes and reduce the incidence of birth defects and developmental disabilities;
- Help children to develop and reach their full potential; and
- Promote health and wellbeing among people of all ages with disabilities, including blood disorders.

Public health is defined as the science and art of preventing disease; promoting physical and behavioral wellness; supporting personal responsibility; and prolonging life in communities where people live, work and learn. Public health focuses on population level solutions to morbidity and improving health and wellness. Through practicing basic public health principles - surveillance, education, research and deploying interventions tailored to the needs of its specific vulnerable populations - NCBDDD is the only place in the federal government serving children and adults with birth defects, disabilities, and blood disorders utilizing a public health strategy. Specific examples of NCBDDD accomplishments in the areas of birth defects, blood disorders, and disabilities are available upon request.

Consensus on Budget Consolidation Proposals

For FY 2012, the President proposed a consolidation of the NCBDDD disability and some other programs. Congressional appropriations conferees decided: "The conferees have rejected the consolidation proposed in the fiscal year 2012 budget for disability initiatives in NCBDDD. The conferees direct that any new consolidation put forward by the administration be accompanied by an assessment of the needs of people with disabilities that includes the categories of disabilities currently served, validates the value of such a consolidation, considers the impact of stakeholders, and establishes the basis for any proposed efficiencies and commonalities."

For FY 2013, the President proposed another consolidation of NCBDDD programs, having failed to address the Congressional conferee instructions. The Friends of NCBDDD Advocacy Coalition recommends that Congress again "reject" the consolidation proposal for NCBDDD and that Congress repeat the FY 2012 instructions for analysis and due diligence before consolidating absent such analysis and documentation.

Use of the Prevention and Public Health Fund to Refinance NCBDDD

The President's FY 2013 budget proposal would refinance 86% of NCBDDD using the Prevention and Public Health Fund (PPHF). The Friends of NCBDDD Advocacy Coalition requests a stable and permanent funding base for NCBDDD.

Friends of NCBDDD Advocacy Coalition Contacts

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