

November 23, 2016

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Senate Majority Leader  
S-230, The Capitol  
United State Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Paul Ryan  
Speaker of the House  
H-232, The Capitol  
United States Congress  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Harry Reid  
Democratic Leader  
S-221, The Capitol  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Democratic Leader  
H-204, The Capitol  
United States Congress  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Leader McConnell, Leader Reid, Speaker Ryan, and Leader Pelosi,

The members of the Coalition to Stop Opioid Overdose are grateful for your leadership and the considerable attention and resources the Congress has dedicated to addressing the opioid misuse and overdose epidemic thus far, but there is more work to do. Before Congress recesses for the year, we ask that at least \$500 million to \$1 billion be included as part the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures bill to expand access to critical prevention, treatment and recovery support services.

The Coalition to Stop Opioid Overdose is a coalition of diverse stakeholders united around common policy goals that will lead to meaningful and comprehensive opioid overdose prevention policy.

We support a comprehensive approach to addressing the opioid misuse and overdose epidemic, which must include full funding for the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act's (CARA) authorized programs to prevent or reverse overdoses and expand access to treatment and vital recovery support services.

While we believe that additional funding in future years will be needed to build and sustain prevention, treatment and recovery programs, an immediate infusion of substantial funding of at least \$500 million to \$1 billion this year will make a meaningful impact on individuals, families and communities struggling with this disease. This amount is also in line with the level of current bipartisan and bicameral support for funding.

Thank you again for your leadership and attention to this matter. We pledge to continue working with Congress and the Administration to end this epidemic and to ensure CARA's authorized programs and policy changes are fully funded so the promise of this life-saving law can be fully realized.

Sincerely,

American Academy of Pediatrics  
American Association of Nurse Practitioners  
American College of Emergency Physicians  
American Society of Addiction Medicine  
Association for Behavioral Health and Wellness  
CleanSlate Centers  
Facing Addiction

HIV Medicine Association  
International Nurses Society on Addictions (IntNSA)  
National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists  
National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse  
National Health Care for the Homeless Council  
Valley Hope  
Young People in Recovery