



July 8, 2013

The Honorable Barbara A. Mikulski  
Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Shelby  
Vice Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Harkin  
Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS & Education  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jerry Moran  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS &  
Education  
Washington, DC 20510

**VIA ELECTRONIC DELIVERY**

Dear Chairwoman Mikulski, Chairman Harkin, Vice Chairman Shelby and Ranking Member Moran:

As you work toward a final appropriations package for fiscal year (FY) 2014, it is vital that the Subcommittee and full Committee pass the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations Act at a level sufficient to include at least the \$100 million in additional funding for Alzheimer's disease and related disorders as set forth in the President's FY 2014 budget proposal and supported by the signatories to the LEAD Coalition's [May 16 letter](#). This funding would enable progress on the national commitment to prevent and treat Alzheimer's disease by 2025, by **including a minimum of a \$80 million in additional funding to support clinical research into Alzheimer's disease and related disorders at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and at least \$20 million to support important caregiving and patient support initiatives managed by the Administration for Community Living (ACL).**

Alzheimer's disease and related disorders currently impose enormous costs to our nation's health and prosperity, costs that are skyrocketing. The choice before our nation is not whether we will address and pay for research and care supports but rather how

we will do so. Will we resolve to innovate our way out of danger, as we have chosen to do when confronted with other similar challenges, or will we incur millions of deaths and hundreds of billions of dollars in annual healthcare costs because we acted too tentatively or too late?

Last month, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) released the first update to the historic National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease. As we move forward in implementation of the plan's recommendations, federal resources are necessary to meet the growing care need and the ambitious goal of finding a cure or effective treatment by 2025. The \$80 million in additional clinical research and \$20 million for long-term care supports are good first steps in honoring this commitment to defeat Alzheimer's disease and related disorders. This action also would pave the way for greater investments in Alzheimer's disease and related disorders research and care in the future, more in line with investments in other chronic disease states.

Thank you for considering this request and for your commitment to overcoming Alzheimer's disease and related disorders. Please contact me with questions or for additional information.

Sincerely,

Ian N. Kremer, Esq.  
Executive Director  
Leaders Engaged on Alzheimer's Disease (LEAD)  
571-383-9916  
[ikremer@leadcoalition.org](mailto:ikremer@leadcoalition.org)

*Leaders Engaged on Alzheimer's Disease (LEAD) is a diverse and growing coalition of 60 member organizations including patient advocacy and voluntary health non-profits, philanthropies and foundations, trade and professional associations, academic research and clinical institutions, and biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies. The LEAD Coalition works collaboratively to focus the nation's strategic attention on Alzheimer's disease and related disorders and to accelerate transformational progress in care and support, detection and diagnosis, and research leading to prevention, effective treatment and eventual cure. One or more participants may have a financial interest in the subjects addressed.*