



May 20, 2022

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
United States House  
2413 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

**RE: FY2023 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations**

**RE: FY2023 Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies Appropriations**

Dear Chair DeLauro:

On behalf of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), we are writing to express our sincere gratitude to you for the critical investments in enhancing mental health services. We applaud your continued bipartisan commitment to transforming our nation's system of mental health care.

NAMI is the nation's largest grassroots mental health organization dedicated to building better lives for the millions of people affected by mental illness. The communities we serve and advocate for are as diverse as our nation. NAMI is a voice for youth and adolescents, veterans and service members, individuals involved with the criminal justice system, those experiencing homelessness, family caregivers, and everyday Americans who are impacted by mental illness. We are all connected by the shared hope of new and innovative treatments, improved health care coverage, and support through recovery.

You and your colleagues on the Appropriations Committee have made unprecedented investments in mental health, substance use, and suicide prevention in the last several years, but we must not miss the opportunity to leverage these investments. We urgently need significant investments in mental health crisis services to stand up the 988 system to reach its full potential to transform how our country responds to people in crisis.

For Fiscal Year 2023 Appropriations, we are writing to seek your continued partnership and support for funding in the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies (Labor, HHS) and Commerce, Justice, Science and Related agencies (CJS) Appropriations bills. These requests are outlined below.

**LABOR, HHS BILL: HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**1. Community Mental Health Services Block Grant**

Account: Health and Human Services; Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA); Mental Health; Mental Health Block Grant

Funding Request: FY2023 \$1.7 billion and double the current set-aside for evidence-based crisis services to 10%

Funding FY2022: \$857 million and 5% set-aside (about \$42 million) for evidence-based crisis care programs

**2. Mental Health Crisis Response Partnership**

Account: Health and Human Services; Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA); Strengthening Community Crisis Response Systems

Funding Request: FY2023 \$100 million

Funding FY2022: \$10 million

**3. School-Based Mental Health Services Grant Program**

Account: Department of Education/Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE)/ Office of Safe and Supportive Schools

Funding Request: FY2023 President's Budget Request \$1 billion; support President's Budget Request

Funding FY2022: \$56 million

**4. National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)**

Account: Health and Human Services; National Institute of Health, National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)

Funding Request: FY2023 request \$2.248 billion

FY2023 President's Budget request \$2.211 billion

Funding FY2022: \$2.14 billion

**5. Pediatric Mental Health Care Access program**

Account: Health and Human Services (HHS); Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

Funding Request: FY2023 \$14 million

Funding History:

FY2022: \$11 million Final bill

FY2021: \$10 million Final bill

2021 American Rescue Plan (ARP): \$10.7 million

**CJS BILL: DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

**1. Crisis Stabilization and Reentry Act**

Account: Department of Justice/Byrne/JAG

Funding Request: FY2023 \$10 million

Funding: FY2022 \$10 million

**2. Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction program**

Account: Department of Justice; Bureau of Justice Assistance; Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction program

Funding Request: FY2023 \$50 million

Funding FY2022 \$40 million

We are grateful for your consideration of these requests, which will provide critical resources needed to fight our mental health crisis, especially within the pandemic.

Again, thank you for your leadership in transforming mental health care in America. If you have any questions or would like to discuss, please contact me at [Hwesolowski@nami.org](mailto:Hwesolowski@nami.org).

Sincerely,



Hannah Wesolowski  
Chief Advocacy Officer  
National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)