

**FRIENDS of the TITLE V MATERNAL and CHILD HEALTH BLOCK GRANT**

c/o Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs  
1825 K Street NW, Suite 250, Washington, DC 20006 Tel: 202-775-0436

March **xx**, 2026

The Honorable Shelly Moore Capito  
Chair  
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on  
Labor, Health and Human Services,  
Education & Related Agencies  
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin  
Ranking Member  
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on  
Labor, Health and Human Services,  
Education & Related Agencies  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Robert Aderholt  
Chair  
House Appropriations Subcommittee on  
Labor, Health and Human Services,  
Education & Related Agencies  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Subcommittee on  
Labor, Health and Human Services,  
Education & Related Agencies  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Capito, Ranking Member Baldwin, Chair Aderholt, and Ranking Member DeLauro:

As organizations dedicated to improving the health of all women, children, and families, we strongly urge you to support at least **\$1 billion for the Title V Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Services Block Grant (Title V) in the fiscal year (FY) 2027 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, reflecting increases for both the state formula fund as well as Special Projects of Regional and National Significance (SPRANS).**

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), approximately 700 pregnancy-related deaths occur in the U.S. each year. Moreover, according to 2021 data from 46 state MMRCs, 87% of pregnancy-related deaths were determined to be preventable. Further, the total infant mortality rate in the U.S. increased by 3% from 2021-2022. *The Title V MCH Block Grant is the only federal program of its kind devoted solely to improving the health of all women and children.*

Title V is a cost-effective, accountable, and flexible funding source that addresses the most critical, pressing, and unique needs of maternal and child health populations in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and each territory. State, local, and territorial health departments use Title V funds to design and implement a wide range of statewide and community-level maternal and child health programs to fit the needs of their specific populations. According to data gathered by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), ***in FY 2024, the Title V state formula fund, which includes a 75 percent state match requirement, served 99 percent of infants, 92 percent of pregnant women, and 62 percent of children nationwide; and the SPRANS portion of Title V supported the work of over 280 grantees across 59 states and territories.***

While programming varies among states, areas of focus among Title V MCH programs include reducing maternal mortality, infant mortality, stillbirth, and preventable diseases among children; advancing health outcomes of mothers, children, and families; assuring access to quality maternal and child health services, especially for families with incomes below the federal poverty level or who live in areas with limited availability of health services; and promoting family-centered, community-based, coordinated care for children with special health care needs. These programs ensure people receive preventive services to avoid more costly chronic conditions later in life, thereby saving federal and state governments money.

Further, the SPRANS portion of Title V is an essential component to achieving its mission of ensuring the health of the nation's mothers, women, children and youth, including children and youth with special health care needs, and their families. SPRANS works to advance MCH by supporting targeted investments that serve as an incubator of MCH innovation across a variety of grantees, including universities, state health departments, and nonprofit organizations. SPRANS grants fund training and workforce, technical assistance, quality improvement, and other mission-critical efforts, including genetics services, newborn screening, and treatments for sickle cell disease and hemophilia. A loss of SPRANS funding could detrimentally impact MCH populations, providers, public health professionals, and trainees in a sweeping way.

The MCH workforce and programs need sustained, increased investment to best serve the nation's maternal and child health populations now and into the future. For FY 2026, we were grateful no cuts were made to the Title V MCH Services Block Grant, including the state formula fund and SPRANS. However, ongoing constraints and flat funding continue to challenge programs facing rising costs and growing needs to address the alarming rates of maternal and infant mortality and morbidity. Moving forward, **we urge you to provide an increase to at least \$1 billion in FY 2027, including robust increases in both the state formula fund and for SPRANS**, to promote sustainable public health programs centered on the needs of our nation's women, children, and families. For additional information on MCH programs in your state, please contact Sherie Lou Santos at the Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs at 202-964-2411 or [ssantos@amchp.org](mailto:ssantos@amchp.org).

Sincerely,