

May 16, 2017

The Honorable Tom Price, MD  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Price:

We write as leaders of organizations strongly committed to the discovery mission of the National Institutes of Health and who believe that sustaining U.S. leadership in biomedical research is vital to domestic and global public health as well as American security and prosperity. In this regard, we were very pleased to see a \$2 billion funding increase for the NIH included in the fiscal year 2017 funding bill that was recently passed by the Congress and signed into law by the President.

However, as deliberations begin over federal funding for the next fiscal year, we are gravely concerned that the Administration is proposing to cut NIH funding to \$25.9 billion for Fiscal Year 2018, including the proposed elimination of the Fogarty International Center.

The Fogarty International Center's primary missions are to support and facilitate global health research conducted by U.S. and international investigators, to build partnerships between health research institutions in the U.S. and abroad and to train the next generation of scientists that can address global health challenges. Fogarty plays a critical role in global health security and emergency preparedness, training health professionals to detect and respond to outbreaks, and conducting studies that will help predict and contain future pandemics. All Fogarty grants engage U.S. investigators and more than 80 percent of Fogarty's extramural grant budget goes to U.S. academic institutions to provide salary and other support to U.S. scientists. The ranks of former Fogarty trainees include public health leaders in health ministries across the world, as well as leaders of important regional and multilateral institutions including the World Health Organization, the Pan American Health Organization and UNAIDS. Although Fogarty's financial footprint is small relative to other NIH Institutes and Centers, its impact has been large and its elimination would be costly to our scientific sector and to our nation's public health. The human capital created through Fogarty serves as a diplomatic resource for America, and the program's elimination would come at a cost to our nation's global standing.

In addition to critical research and training in HIV, tuberculosis, malaria and other tropical diseases, Fogarty grants support research in a wide array of disease areas, including brain and nervous system disorders, cancer, cardio- and cerebrovascular disease and stroke, chronic lung disease, diabetes, mental illness, neurological, substance abuse, and developmental disorders. Breakthroughs made possible by Fogarty funding directly benefit U.S. patients and researchers.

We are committed to working closely with members of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees as they move forward to develop funding bills for fiscal year 2018, and pledge to advocate vigorously for robust funding for the NIH, and its flagship Fogarty International Center. We would

appreciate the opportunity to meet with you to discuss the importance of U.S. investment in biomedical research at NIH, including the Fogarty International Center. Please contact the Infectious Diseases Society of America Vice President for Global Health Christine Lubinski at [clubinski@idsociety.org](mailto:clubinski@idsociety.org) to schedule a meeting.

Sincerely,



William G. Powderly, MD, FIDSA  
President, Infectious Diseases Society of America  
J. William Campbell Professor of Medicine  
Co-Director, Division of Infectious Diseases,  
Washington University School of Medicine



Wendy Armstrong, MD, FIDSA  
Board Chair, HIV Medicine Association  
Director, Infectious Disease Training  
Emory University



Maureen O'Leary, PhD, CBSP  
President  
ABSA International



Susan Sharp, PhD  
President  
American Society for Microbiology



Susan Peschin, MHS  
President and CEO  
Alliance for Aging Research



Patricia F Walker, MD, DTM&H, FASTMH  
President  
American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene



Margaret L. Hoffman-Terry, MD, FACP, AAHIVS  
Board of Directors Chairperson  
American Academy of HIV Medicine  
Lehigh Valley Hospital  
Allentown, Pennsylvania



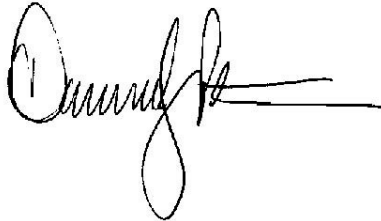
David Gozal, MD, MBA  
President  
American Thoracic Society



Kevin Robert Frost  
Chief Executive Officer  
amfAR, Foundation for AIDS Research



Jason E. Farley, PhD, MPH, ANP-BC, FAAN, AACRN  
President  
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care



Donna J. Petersen, ScD, MHS, CPH  
Chair, Board of Directors  
Association of Schools and Programs of Public  
Health  
Dean, College of Public Health and Senior Associate  
Vice President, USF Health, University of South  
Florida



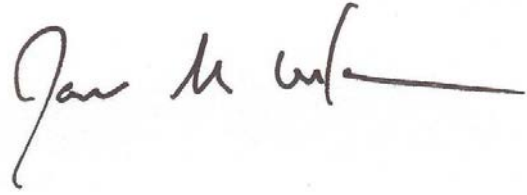
Keith Martin MD, PC  
Executive Director  
Consortium of Universities for Global Health



William B. Karesh, MD  
Executive Vice President for Health and Policy  
EcoHealth Alliance



Charles Lyons  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation



James M. Welch  
Executive Director  
Elizabeth R. Griffin Research Foundation



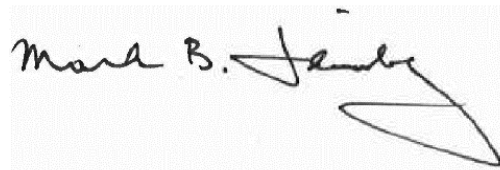
Barbara Byrd Keenan  
Chief Executive Officer  
Endocrine Society



Jamie Bay Nishi  
Director  
Global Health Technologies Coalition



Linda-Gail Bekker MBChB, FCP(SA), PhD  
President  
International AIDS Society  
Desmond Tutu HIV Centre



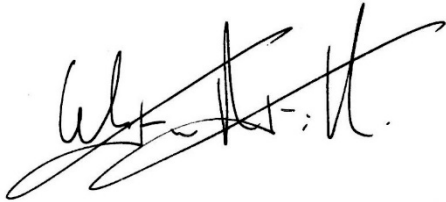
Mark Feinberg, MD, PhD, FACP  
President and CEO  
International AIDS Vaccine Initiative  
Chair, Scientific Advisory Committee, Coalition for  
Epidemic Preparedness Innovations



Christopher H. Fox, DMD, DMSc  
Executive Director  
International and American Associations for Dental  
Research



Alexandra Valsamakis, MD, PhD  
President  
Pan American Society for Clinical Virology



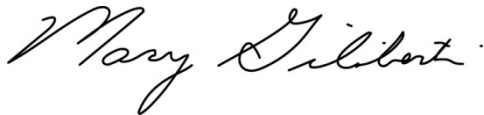
Celso Ramos-Filho, MD, MSc  
Board Chair, International Association of Providers  
of AIDS Care  
Professor of Medicine, Federal University of Rio de  
Janeiro, Brazil



Paul Spearman, MD, FPIDS  
President  
Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society



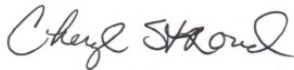
Sara Cosgrove, MD, MS, FSHEA, FIDSA  
President  
The Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of  
America  
Professor of Medicine  
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine



Mary Giliberti, J.D.  
Chief Executive Officer  
National Alliance on Mental Illness



Mary Wooley  
President and CEO  
Research!America



Cheryl Stroud  
Executive Director  
One Health Commission



E. Wayne Holden, PhD  
Chief Executive Officer  
RTI International

Cc: Francis Collins, MD, PhD, Director, National Institutes of Health