

September 6, 2012

Senator Patrick Leahy  
437 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Lindsey Graham  
290 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Congresswoman Kay Granger  
320 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Congresswoman Nita Lowey  
2365 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington DC, 20515

Dear Senators Leahy and Graham and Representatives Granger and Lowey:

On behalf of the undersigned members of the Global AIDS Policy Partnership (GAPP), we wish to thank you for maintaining strong funding levels for global HIV/AIDS programs in your respective Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs Appropriations bills. The GAPP is a coalition of advocacy and implementing organizations committed to expanding and improving global HIV and AIDS programming. As stop-gap funding measures end, and, hopefully, a final FY 2013 deal is negotiated, **we ask that you maintain the House level for the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) at \$4.242 billion and the Senate level for the contribution to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund) at \$1.65 billion, as well as \$350 million for USAID Global HIV/AIDS programs.**

We recognize that these are challenging economic times. But as you are well aware, U.S. funded global HIV/AIDS programs have shown a consistent return on investment, saving millions of lives around the world. As of March 2012, **PEPFAR** was supporting antiretroviral (ARV) treatment for nearly 4.5 million people worldwide – well on the way to reaching 6 million people by the end of 2013. In Fiscal Year 2011 alone, PEPFAR directly supported HIV testing and counseling for more than 40 million people and care and support services for nearly 13 million people, including more than 4.1 million orphans and vulnerable children. In that same year, PEPFAR helped to avert 200,000 new HIV infections in children by supporting over 9.8 million pregnant women with HIV counseling and testing and by providing antiretroviral drugs to more than 660,000 women living with HIV to prevent mother-to-child-transmission (PMTCT) of the virus.

U.S. investment in the **Global Fund** has also produced remarkable results. As of July 2012, 3.6 million people living with HIV are receiving ARV treatment through the Global Fund; 1.5 million pregnant women living with HIV have received medicine to prevent MTCT; 210 million people have received HIV counseling and testing services; and 6.1 million AIDS orphans have been provided basic care and support.

**While these statistics provide evidence of the progress made in battling these global health challenges, we are concerned that in the current fiscal and political environment, funding for these programs could be in jeopardy.**

New data presented at the recent International HIV/AIDS Conference in Washington, D.C. reinforced the notion that we are at a tipping point in the global epidemic. New infections are on the decline, and we very well could be at the start of an AIDS-free generation - but reducing financial support by the United

States at this juncture will set back our progress and have implications for assistance from other international donors as well.

Now more than ever, especially with the prospect of potential sequestration looming, having the strongest numbers for global HIV/AIDS programs is imperative. Additionally, it is crucial that harmful policy riders that could inhibit the successful implementation of programs under PEPFAR be excluded.

Your bipartisan commitment to reversing the global spread of HIV/AIDS is evident and applauded. Now is not the time to relax that commitment. We urge you to make ending the HIV/AIDS epidemic a key fiscal priority, and include the highest funding levels possible for global HIV/AIDS programs in the final FY 2013 appropriations legislation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

ACT V: The End of AIDS  
Advocates for Youth  
The AIDS Institute  
AIDS United  
American Jewish World Service  
American Medical Student Association (AMSA)  
amfAR, the Foundation for AIDS Research  
AVAC  
Center for Health and Gender Equity (CHANGE)  
Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation  
The Episcopal Church  
The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
FHI 360  
Friends of the Global Fight Against AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria  
Futures Group  
The Global Forum on MSM & HIV (MSMGF)  
Health GAP  
HIV Medicine Association  
The IDSA Center for Global Health Policy  
International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI)  
International HIV/AIDS Alliance USA  
John Snow, Inc  
Management Sciences for Health  
National Association of Social Workers  
Pathfinder International  
Population Action International  
POZ Magazine  
RESULTS  
Treatment Action Group (TAG)