



Friends of NICHD

Supporting the Eunice Kennedy Shriver

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chair, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and
Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies
House Committee on Appropriations

May 21, 2019

Dear Chair DeLauro,

On behalf of the Friends of NICHD, thank you for your leadership in providing valuable funding increases in the fiscal year 2020 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies (LHHS) Appropriations bill for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD).

By providing an additional \$2 billion for NIH, including an additional \$80 million for NICHD for a total of \$1.58 billion, scientists funded by NICHD will be able to make more rapid progress in areas of biomedical, behavioral, and social science research within the institute's portfolio. With increased funding levels, we can look forward to more research on critical health issues including child health and human development across the lifespan, women's health; maternal, child, and family health; intellectual and developmental disabilities, learning and language development; reproductive biology, population health, and medical rehabilitation. We are also excited about new opportunities to increase our investment in training the next generation of researchers and clinician-scientists.

Our coalition of organizations comprising a wide range of scientists, physicians, health care providers, patients, and parents appreciate your continued support for biomedical and behavioral research, and prioritization of NIH and NICHD in the FY 2020 Labor-HHS appropriations bill. If we can be of any further assistance in your efforts, please do not hesitate to reach out to us at any time.

Sincerely,

Joseph Laakso
2019 Chair
Friends of NICHD

Erin Kramer
2019 Vice-Chair
Friends of NICHD