Background

As the nation’s largest investment in preventative measures to protect public health, PPHF is a critical source of funding for programs.

The purpose of the fund is to provide mandatory federal funding for public health and prevention programs that would work “upstream” to improve health and prevent disease.

About the Prevention Fund

The Prevention Fund is intended to ensure a coordinated, comprehensive, sustainable, and accountable approach to improving our country’s health outcomes through the most effective prevention and public health programs.

Since its creation, the Prevention Fund has been instrumental in maintaining and increasing support for evidenced-based chronic disease programs funded by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Funding

Since the inception of the Prevention Fund, it has seen dramatic cuts to originally enacted levels. Because the House and Senate can tap into the Prevention Fund, it has repeatedly been chipped away at by Congress or used by the Executive Branch to fund non-public health services.

Notes: The original allocations (navy bars) were established by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) (P.L. 110-48), while cuts (teal bars) were established by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (P.L. 115-123, Current Law). Source: TFAN analysis of congressional committee reports.

Source: Trust for America’s Health

If you have any questions about this policy proposal, please send an email to grassroots@shea-online.org
The Prevention Fund is integral to many state public health services that rely on federal funding for execution and sustainability.

- All states rely on CDC’s Epidemiology and Lab Capacity program and funding for state healthcare-associated infection prevention programs.
- These funds provide assistance to public health departments to assess infection prevention practices and quality improvement initiatives, and to build capacity for surveillance, detection, and prevention of emerging infectious diseases.

The Prevention and Public Health Fund is a critical investment in prevention and public health, and by statute, is meant “to provide for expanded and sustained national investment in prevention and public health programs to improve health and help restrain the rate of growth in private and public sector health care costs.”

The Prevention Fund provides funding for the Prevention Epicenters Program, another priority federal program for SHEA.

The Prevention Fund accounts for approximately 12% of the CDC’s yearly budget. Without this funding, the ability to directly support states and communities in addressing their most pressing health challenges, the prevention of infections and chronic illnesses, and investments in programs that are proven and effective would be crippled.

### Where does SHEA stand?

SHEA stands with healthcare professionals and organizations who support the Prevention Fund at the funding levels when originally enacted under the Affordable Care Act.

SHEA opposes the use of the fund for initiatives that do not fall under the original intention of the fund and support its responsible use.

SHEA urges Congress and the White House to not pass legislation that would deauthorize or defund the Prevention Fund.

SHEA supports the passage of S. 1944, the Public Health Funding Restoration Act.

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