



**CONSORTIUM FOR CITIZENS
WITH DISABILITIES**

President's FY 2021 Budget Offers Bleak Future for People with Disabilities

Washington DC, February 11, 2019 - The Co-Chairs of the Fiscal Policy Task Force of the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD), the largest coalition of national disability organizations, are once again deeply concerned by the future that the Administration has laid out for Americans with disabilities. CCD is the largest coalition of national organizations working together to advocate for Federal public policy that ensures the self-determination, independence, empowerment, integration and inclusion of children and adults with disabilities in all aspects of society.

Once again, the President's Budget proposes deep cuts for programs that support the health and wellbeing of people with disabilities. The \$4.8 trillion "Budget for America's Future" takes particular aim at health care programs for people with disabilities and low income Americans. It justifies these extreme cuts as necessary measures to reign in deficits while ignoring the needs of individuals with disabilities and their families. Sadly, instead of proposing solutions to help people, this budget is largely a repeat of the same one we have seen since FY 2018.

Among the many harmful proposals impacting people with disabilities that the President has proposed in previous years are:

Medicaid. Nearly a trillion dollars would be cut from Medicaid through per capita caps or block grants and limiting Medicaid expansion to people with very low incomes.

Developmental Disabilities (DD) Act Programs. Significant cuts to all DD Act programs - State Councils on Developmental Disabilities (-28%), Protection and Advocacy for Developmental Disabilities (-5%), University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (-21%), and Projects of National Significance (-92%).

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (SNAP). Food assistance under SNAP cut by nearly 30%.

Social Services. Elimination of the Social Services Block Grant, a flexible source of funds used by states to help prevent abuse and neglect, provide family supports, and prevent the institutionalization of persons with disabilities, among other things.

Housing. The Department of Housing and Urban Development is cut by 15 %, including zeroing out the Community Development Block Grant program and the National Housing Trust Fund, making it harder for low-income Americans to find affordable housing.

Work Requirements. Ineffectual and burdensome work requirement would result in hundreds of thousands of low-income Americans, including people with disabilities, losing access to Medicaid services.

School voucher. A new tax credit of \$50 billion over ten years to support school vouchers. Such initiatives, which forfeit public funds, are purportedly for giving more decision-making power to parents and families. However, only private schools - that do not have to accept nor appropriately serve students with disabilities - would actually be given such power.

“The President’s FY2021 budget is largely a sad repeat of past attacks on people with disabilities and is extremely disappointing. President Trump promised to protect Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid during his campaign and his FY 2021 budget proposal breaks those promises yet again,” stated Annie Acosta,” CCD Fiscal Policy Co-Chair. “It includes deep cuts to the programs that have made it possible for people with disabilities to be healthy, get jobs, and live in the community.”

The Consortium for Citizens with disabilities is the largest coalition of national organizations working together to advocate for Federal public policy that ensures the self-determination, independence, empowerment, integration and inclusion of children and adults with disabilities in all aspects of society. For more information visit www.c-c-d.org or contact Annie Acosta, 202-783-2229 or acosta@thearc.org; Eric Buehlmann, 202-408-9514, eric.buehlmann@ndrn.org; Donna Meltzer, 202-506-5813 or dmeltzer@nacdd.org

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