

May 25, 2025

The Honorable Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.
Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human
Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20201

The Honorable Russell Vought
Director
Office of Management and Budget
725 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Secretary Kennedy and Director Vought:

On behalf of the undersigned organizations representing millions of patients, healthcare providers, researchers, and advocates dedicated to fighting cancer, we are writing to emphasize the vital importance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Division of Cancer Prevention and Control's (DCPC) work in protecting and improving America's health and reducing the burden of chronic disease. We urge you to strengthen our national commitment to supporting this work.

Cancer remains one of our nation's most significant public health challenges, affecting millions of Americans and their families, with nearly two million new cases of cancer diagnosed and more than 600,000 deaths each year. The United States has one of the highest age-standardized incidence rates of cancer in the world. In addition to the human cost of cancer, cancer care is estimated to cost the United States \$185 billion each year. The DCPC's work is critical to understanding and lowering cancer rates, and its effort to prevent cancer, detect it early, and educate patients and providers about cancer risks is fundamental to help achieve the Administration's health care goals.

Specifically, the DCPC:

- Collects and coordinates key data on cancer cases and treatment through the National Program of Cancer Registries that is essential for any prevention strategy
- Promotes and conducts cancer screening to detect cancer at the earliest – and most easily treated – stages
- Supports locally-driven plans in all U.S. states and territories to prevent and control cancer
- Conducts key education initiatives to help raise awareness about cancer prevention and treatment

These four activities represent a small, but significant portion of a smart investment in our nation's health and economic future. The burden of chronic disease is real and profound, and progress in the fight against cancer requires a long-term commitment. We are seeing the fruits of our efforts: cancer mortality rates have declined by 34 percent over the last 30 years and it would be a tragedy to slow, or lose ground on this progress. The DCPC programs are uniquely positioned to continue to direct and support our national strategy of cancer prevention in the interest of making all Americans healthier.

We urge you to maintain and strengthen funding for these crucial activities, which are of vital interest to a healthy America now and in the future.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter. We welcome the opportunity to discuss this important work with you further.

Fight Colorectal Cancer
Melanoma Research Foundation
Ovarian Cancer Research Alliance
Prevent Cancer Foundation
Susan G. Komen
ZERO Prostate Cancer