

January 20, 2016

President Barack Obama The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

As your Administration completes work on finalizing the FY2016 operating budget for the National Institutes of Health, we write to ask that the final FY2016 NIH budget include the \$100 million increase for HIV/AIDS research for FY2016 above the FY2015 level that your Administration publically committed to in your FY2016 budget proposal released in February, 2015.

This is a time to prioritize, not cut or flat fund HIV/AIDS research. NIH-funded HIV/AIDS research has supported innovative basic science for better drug therapies, behavioral and biomedical prevention interventions that have saved and improved the lives of millions. These advances hold great promise for significantly reducing HIV infection rates and providing more effective treatments for those living with HIV/AIDS in the coming decade. Research advances to develop a preventive vaccine and a cure for HIV infection hold the potential to "end the scourge of HIV/AIDS" as you so eloquently stated in your State of the Union address.

Thank you for considering these views.*

Respectfully Yours,

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