GHTC
global health technologies coalition

advancing **innovation** to save lives

May 8, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chair
House Appropriations Committee
2207 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
2143 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Robert Aderholt
Chair
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies
272 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies
2143 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Members of the Appropriations Committee:

As members of the Global Health Technologies Coalition (GHTC)—a group of more than 50 nonprofit organizations, academic institutions, and aligned businesses advancing the creation of new drugs, vaccines, diagnostics, and other tools for global health—we write to highlight the critical role of US programs that support global health research and development (R&D) and encourage your continued support for this important work.

Our request: In fiscal year 2027 (FY27), we strongly urge the Committee to support global health research by:

- Increasing funding for the **National Institutes of Health (NIH)**, including $103.44 million for the **Fogarty International Center (FIC)**, $7.15 billion for the **National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID),** $1.93 billion for the **Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)**, $115.74 million for the **Office of Research on Women's Health (ORWH)**, and $3.95 billion for the **Office of AIDS Research (OAR)**.
- Sustaining funding for the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's) National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases (NCEZID)** at $781.27 million and the **Global Health Center (GHC)** at $692.84 million.
- Appropriating robust funding and strong funding directive for emerging infectious disease (EID) R&D and for all relevant accounts for antimicrobial resistance (AMR) R&D for the **Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA).**

Each of these agencies' work on global health R&D and women's health innovation has in some capacity been jeopardized, frozen, or eliminated in the past 17 months. While we appreciate the push for a more effective executive branch, the cuts to and eliminations of key innovation hubs and global health programs will damage the legacy of US leadership in the innovation space without intervention.

Global health R&D is a high-return investment that strengthens U.S. economic competitiveness, supports American jobs, and drives innovation with global impact. As the global leader in biomedical

research, the United States can and should continue to drive innovation. With strategic investments, we can save lives, strengthen our health systems, and reinforce our international leadership. To preserve and build upon past gains, we must not allow funding uncertainty to undermine progress. Congress has an important role to play in ensuring consistent standards of accountability across federally funded research and its implementation. That is why we are requesting strong report language to underpin the funding levels we are in support of.

Global Health R&D is a strategic and economic imperative

Why global health matters to Americans: Global health is a bipartisan cornerstone of US foreign policy. Supporting the public health of partner countries has practical and moral justifications.

- Investments in global health programming are a fundamental pillar of America's national security agenda. It makes America safer by supporting early detection and protection from dangerous outbreaks of infectious diseases and by improving health infrastructure to bolster prevention, preparedness, and response to chronic and emergent health needs.
- Global health makes America stronger and more prosperous by strengthening global economic stability, as well as social cohesion, and unleashes American ingenuity in creating medicines, treatment, technology, manufacturing, health education, and more. Effective global health programs save and improve lives, stabilize and secure international trade and global supply chains, and accelerate prosperity at home and around the world.
- Investments in global health R&D also lead to economic gains in the US and in partner countries. As told in a recent analysis conducted in partnership with Impact Global Health and GHTC, between 2007 and 2022, $46 billion in global health R&D investment led to $102 billion in economic activity and the creation of over 600,000 jobs country-wide. This is not to mention the follow-on effects of the innovations the US invested in during that time period which are projected to generate $251 billion and counting for the US economy.

Still, millions of people die every year because we do not have the technologies to save them.

The challenge: In 2024, 1.23 million people died from tuberculosis (TB), 1.3 million people were newly diagnosed with HIV, and 282 million people were infected by malaria. In 2021, at least 1.14 million people were killed by bacterial AMR, and 4.71 million deaths were associated with bacterial AMR. More than 1 billion people worldwide are affected by neglected tropical diseases (NTDs), a group of 21 diseases caused by a variety of pathogens. Women and children are often most vulnerable, especially in low-resource settings.

The United States, as a biomedical research powerhouse, can change history through relatively small public investments.

New medical products are needed to overcome neglected diseases, to stay ahead of deadly growth of pathogen resistance and control AMR, to replace outdated and toxic treatments, to prepare for future pandemics, and to better reach low-resource, remote, and unstable settings. Examples of the technologies we need:

- New tools to prevent, diagnose and treat drug-resistant infections.
- A vaccine against HIV infection and a cure for HIV/AIDS.
- Innovative treatments and easy-to-administer and long-acting prevention tools for malaria.

- Shorter TB treatment regimens and a more effective vaccine.
- Better diagnostics and treatments for many NTDs.

Why public investment is needed: US government support for this research is critical to protect the American public and the global community because the private sector typically does not invest in technologies that have limited commercial market incentives.

- Public investments often support product development partnerships (PDPs): not-for-profit organizations that convene government, scientific, private sector, and community partners to develop new global health technologies.
- Investments in new global health technologies for low-resource settings will naturally benefit rural and frontier communities in the US either directly or through the creation of modular platform technologies.
- Empowering countries through global health investments that lead to healthier populations strengthens economies and political stability.

NIH Fogarty: Our first line of defense against biosecurity threats and disease

FIC accelerates science, partnerships, and technical assistance with partner countries to advance new technologies for pressing health challenges, delivering significant scientific results and foreign goodwill with less than one-quarter of one percent of the total NIH budget.

What's needed: We urge Congress to include report language recognizing that Fogarty needs additional resources to expand its role in global health security and global health research capacity building.

- This language should recognize the value of reciprocal innovation: that new global health innovations supported by FIC can often be used in low-resource settings everywhere, including in rural and low-income areas of the United States, to drive down health care costs, improve public health, and strengthen health security.

Why FIC matters: FIC has forged decades-long international partnerships and trained thousands of scientists around the world, many of whom hold high-ranking academic and government positions and have moved the needle on neglected and emerging infectious diseases, such as HIV/AIDS, COVID-19, Zika, and Ebola.

- These investments improve public health in the United States. They strengthen the world's ability to detect emerging and novel disease threats sooner and create platforms for partnerships between scientists in the United States and other countries.
- FIC investments in training and strengthening countries' research capacities enhance countries' self-reliance.
- FIC investments lead to new tools or interventions designed for low-resource settings, and these innovations can be deployed back in the United States, where they can drive down costs and improve access to health care in rural settings.

NIH NIAID: A leader of global health research

NIAID is the world's leading funder of global health R&D. NIAID has a unique mandate among the institutes, requiring it to respond to emerging public health threats and, thus, to better understand disease mechanisms for the development of essential countermeasures.

What's needed: We urge Congress to prioritize NIAID's research programs for poverty-related and neglected diseases and emerging infectious diseases.

Why NIAID matters for Americans: NIAID is the world's leading sponsor of research that leads to new global health technologies.

- NIAID supports basic research that expands our fundamental knowledge of HIV/AIDS, malaria, TB, NTDs, and EIDs, spurring new ideas and tools to defeat them. For example, NIAID discovered and advanced a monoclonal antibody Ebola treatment, mAb114, which dramatically improved survival rate for infected patients in a clinical trial conducted during the 2018 outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Thanks to this and other breakthroughs, Ebola, once almost uniformly fatal, is now a treatable disease.
- NIAID researchers are actively supporting the development of more effective diagnostic tests, new antibiotics, and novel treatments effective against drug-resistant microbes.
- NIAID also supports the early-stage development of vaccines, drugs, and diagnostics for poverty-related and NTDs, often in partnership with other US agencies and product development partnerships. These technologies can be used in low-resource settings, making them critical for disease control in low- and middle-income countries as well as in rural and frontier areas of the United States.

The Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development: advancing research across the life course/lifespan

Women's health remains one of the most underfunded and under-explored areas in health research, despite its profound importance to the lives of women and health outcomes across populations. For more than 50 years, NICHD has led research on the processes of human development and how they affect health, from pre-pregnancy through adulthood.

What's needed: We urge Congress to protect recent gains that strengthen and sustain women's health research by funding NICHD at $1.933 billion in FY27.

- NICHD provides leadership and formulates research goals to address child and maternal health issues. By supporting biomedical and behavioral research in multiple capacities, spearheading training in fundamental sciences and clinical disciplines, and coordinating government-wide efforts to improve health, investment in NICHD is essential to maintain and advance progress in women's health research and beyond.

Why NICHD matters: NICHD's life course approach enables researchers to understand how health trajectories are shaped from early development to adulthood, an essential perspective for addressing complex health challenges facing women, infants, and children.

- Investment in NICHD leads to improved health outcomes and wellbeing and reduced societal costs associated with illness and disability. By spearheading research and training to understand

human development, improve reproductive health, and enhance the lives of children and adolescents, NICHD has helped advance science and improve the health of individuals, families, and communities.

- NICHD's 2025 strategic plan establishes scientific research goals linked by cross-cutting themes that include understanding the role of nutrition in promoting health throughout the lifespan, leveraging AI and other advanced technologies across biomedical fields, and providing training and career development for the next generation of researchers. With proper investment, the successful implementation of this strategy has the ability to shape the future health outcomes of all women, children, and infants substantially.
- Women's and maternal health research continue to be underfunded relative to disease burden, and progress depends on sustained federal leadership. NICHD is uniquely positioned to address these gaps by integrating research across disciplines and life stages, ensuring that innovations translate into improved outcomes for women, children, and families.

Office of Research on Women's Health: integrating women's health research across NIH

For more than 30 years, ORWH has served as the focal point for women's health research at NIH. Situated within the NIH Office of the Director, ORWH works in partnership with the other NIH Institutes, Centers, and Offices to promote the prioritization of women's health across research portfolios, the inclusion of women in research populations, and the consideration of sex as a critical factor in health and disease. Since its inception, ORWH also has developed innovative strategies to recruit, retain, and support women in the biomedical workforce.

What's needed: We urge Congress to fund ORWH at $115.74 million in FY27 to ensure women's health research is represented and appropriately integrated across NIH Institutes, Centers, and Offices to advance rigorous, reproducible, high-quality research.

- ORWH is well positioned to advance global health R&D by generating more inclusive evidence, accelerating innovation in sex-informed prevention and treatment strategies, and strengthening research systems that better serve diverse populations worldwide. By coordinating efforts across NIH, ORWH ensures that research reflects real-world populations and produces evidence that improves health outcomes for women globally.

Why ORWH matters: Women's health remains one of the most underfunded and under-explored areas in health research, despite its profound importance to the lives of women and health outcomes across populations. Women experience differences in disease risk, progression, and treatment response that are too often overlooked, resulting in delayed diagnoses, suboptimal care, and avoidable health burdens. ORWH's work contributes to improving the health of women from head to toe and across the lifespan, positively impacting the health of all.

- Today, only about 5 percent of health research and development funding worldwide is dedicated to women's health, and less than one percent of that share supports non-cancer-related conditions, leaving vast gaps in our understanding of conditions that disproportionately or uniquely affect women.

Investment in the work ORWH conducts to address gaps in health innovations for women, further implement sex-informed research design, strengthen the inclusion of women in clinical trials, and prioritize women across the research continuum leads to better health outcomes in women worldwide.

Multi-purpose prevention technologies: an opportunity for next-generation, holistic tools

The Office of the Director at the National Institutes of Health conducts essential work developing **multi-purpose prevention technologies (MPTs)** to address women's overlapping sexual health risks through integrated, user-centered solutions that are more effective and easier to deliver.

What's needed: We urge Congress to include report language encouraging the NIH, particularly NICHD and NIAID, to work with partners to accelerate research, development, and implementation of MPTs in FY27.

Why it matters: Accelerating MPT research and development will strengthen collaboration across the NIH, advance sex-informed innovation, ensure women are meaningfully included in clinical research, and represent a critical opportunity to advance next-generation innovation in global health.

- These technologies can lower chances that new ideas will fail in early stages, catalyze public-private partnerships, and support scalable, affordable products that respond to women's lived realities ultimately advancing health outcomes and improving global prevention efforts.

Support scalable, cost-effective solutions, increasing uptake in resource-limited settings and translate innovation into impact by ensuring that promising technologies reach the populations who need them most.

CDC: A global health technical hub

CDC's GHC and NCEZID track global diseases and support the development of new medical technologies important for global health. CDC's role in global health is unique and essential, working in-country to strengthen disease detection and response that also protects Americans at home.

What's needed: We urge Congress to include report language that supports CDC's work in global health research and acknowledges the need for additional resources, including specific language that:

- Supports CDC's leadership in tracking diseases and developing technologies that are used in global health and US global health security programs, and acknowledges that, as these programs face funding cliffs and increased demand, they need additional funding to be maintained.
- Supports CDC's efforts to elevate R&D for global health security in its international engagements.
- Supports CDC's vital scientific and technical contributions to US government interagency efforts to combat malaria globally.

Why GHC matters for Americans: GHC provides core technical support and validates tools used by US government global health programs such as PEPFAR and NTD efforts. GHC also monitors global drug and insecticide resistance with direct implications for Americans.

- GHC leads global health security efforts. It monitors more than 40 international public health threats on average each day, has more than 100 active global responses in 40 countries as of 2025, and collaborates with 190 countries to strengthen laboratory detection of diseases and emerging pathogens.
- GHC provides scientific and technical expertise in support of US engagements in the Global Health Security Agenda, an international mechanism for countries to coordinate and prepare for future pandemic threats.
- GHC recently uncovered the spread of an invasive mosquito species in East Africa that has accelerated the spread of malaria.

Why NCEZID matters for Americans: NCEZID provides expertise to track and prevent infectious disease threats.

- NCEZID now hosts the former Division of Parasitic Diseases and Malaria (DPDM), which provides services to people in the United States and around the world. Until fiscal year 2023, DPDM had not received a substantial funding increase in 15 years. Additional funding is needed to maintain DPDM's labs as the world's gold standard.
- NCEZID serves as an international reference hub for identifying unknown viral and bacterial diseases and provides advanced laboratory services to CDC researchers for safely studying hazardous pathogens.
- NCEZID supports early-stage research on vaccines for diseases such as Nipah virus, dengue, and Lassa and Rift Valley fevers, and develops rapid diagnostic tests for bubonic plague, rabies, Zika, Ebola, Lyme disease, and other parasites that may threaten the United States.
- NCEZID monitors the spread of diseases and the emergence of new variants, indicating to developers when new technologies are needed.

BARDA: A bio-innovation powerhouse in need of an increased mandate

BARDA sponsors the late-stage development of vaccines, drugs, diagnostics, and other medical devices for naturally occurring biothreats that lack a commercial market—including EIDs, pandemic influenza, and AMR. BARDA needs additional dedicated funding to support its EID and AMR work and achieve its goal of developing threat-agnostic technologies to address these challenges.

What's needed:

- Report language that encourages BARDA to develop tools that benefit people living in all geographies in response to future naturally occurring health threats. Strengthening global health protects Americans from health threats.
- Report language that encourages robust funding for BARDA's EID and AMR programs.
- Report language that encourages BARDA to consider the constraints of low-resource settings in the United States and globally in its product investment decisions.
- Report language requesting continued public reporting on its product investments.

Why it matters: BARDA prioritizes national health security, but many of the products it supports have additional global impact. The agency has supported development of 130 AMR innovations, at least 160 products for COVID-19, and 11 FDA-approved products for Ebola and Zika.

- BARDA is the best mechanism for sponsoring late-stage development of EID products to prepare for future health security threats, **but most of BARDA's EID work has only been funded through emergency supplemental appropriations. For example, $25 billion in emergency funds supported the advancements made to combat COVID-19—more than 43 times its base FY 2020 appropriation.**
- In 2019, drug-resistant bacteria killed 1.27 million people and was associated with around 60,000 deaths in the United States. BARDA supports AMR research through several mechanisms, including CARB-X, a multisector partnership that hosts the most diverse research pipeline of AMR products in the world. Thanks to BARDA's funding, 24 CARB-X-supported projects have already advanced into or completed clinical trials; 14 remain active in late-stage clinical development; and three diagnostic products have reached the market. There is a critical ongoing need for funding for early-stage AMR product development from CARB-X to replenish the antimicrobial clinical pipeline, which underpins a strong US healthcare system.
- First-to-market products for health emergencies are often difficult to use in low-resource settings in rural and low-income areas in the United States and around the world.
- Transparency from BARDA on which diseases and products it is investing in benefit the research community and congressional oversight.

We stand ready to work with you to advance US leadership in global health and global health innovation and ask that support for global health R&D not come at the expense of other humanitarian assistance and development accounts.

In this moment of transition and reflection on our health and research infrastructure, it is more important than ever to preserve the progress we've made and invest boldly in the innovations of tomorrow. Global health R&D is a smart, strategic investment in a safer, healthier, and more prosperous America.

Please do not hesitate to contact GHTC US Policy and Advocacy Officer Alex Long at along@ghtcoalition.org if you have questions or need any additional information.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kristie Mikus, GHTC Executive Director and GHTC member organizations listed below

American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene

American Society for Microbiology

AVAC

Boston University

Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation

Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations, U.S.

Georgia Life Sciences

Global Antibiotic Research and Development Partnership

Global Health Technologies Coalition

Global Health Council

International AIDS Vaccine Initiative

Impact Global Health

Innovative Vector Control Consortium

Medicines for Malaria Venture

Population Council

Treatment Action Group

TB Alliance