



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

March 13, 2026

The Honorable Mario Diaz-Balart
Chairman
Subcommittee on National Security,
Department of State, and Related Agencies
House Committee on Appropriations
Room HT-2, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Lois Frankel
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on National Security,
Department of State, and Related Agencies
House Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Diaz-Balart and Ranking Member Frankel:

Thank you for your leadership on the House Committee on Appropriations and its Subcommittee on National Security, Department of State, and Related Agencies. As you begin to prepare your bill for Fiscal Year 2027 (FY27), we respectfully request \$4.63 billion in funding for the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), \$50 million for the Joint UN Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), and support a contribution of \$1.533 billion to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund), consistent with the administration's pledge of \$4.6 billion for the Global Fund's current three-year funding cycle. Timely bipartisan support of these programs is crucial as PEPFAR, UNAIDS, and the Global Fund work towards the necessary acceleration of HIV prevention and treatment to reach the goal of ending AIDS as a public health threat by 2030.

The impact of U.S. leadership through PEPFAR and other bilateral investments — through the State Department and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention — alongside multilateral commitments to the Global Fund and UNAIDS, has been transformative in the global fight against HIV/AIDS. The results are not just impressive on paper; they represent real lives saved, increased economic partnerships, and communities given the chance to move forward. At its core, global HIV work reflects a set of shared values: that every life has worth, that prevention and care should be within reach no matter where someone is born, and that partnership across borders makes all of us stronger and safer. These programs demonstrate what is possible when we choose to lead with compassion, evidence, and a commitment to protecting the health and dignity of people everywhere.



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This work has been made possible by enduring bipartisan Congressional support for the global HIV response. The 2024 Global AIDS Report released by UNAIDS detailed a 75% reduction in the rate of HIV transmission since the height of the HIV epidemic with approximately 1.3 million people acquiring HIV in 2024 — the lowest it has been since the late 1980s. The number of annual deaths dropped to just 630,000 people dying from AIDS-related deaths. The number of lives saved by PEPFAR alone equals well over 25 million. As of September 30, 2024, PEPFAR supported life-saving antiretroviral treatment for 20.6 million people and has averted more than 7.8 million new infections in children since its inception. And PEPFAR-supported countries also experienced 2.1% higher GDP per capita growth than they would have seen without the program.

Similarly, the Global Fund's investments have saved over 70 million lives since its inception in 2002. In 2024 alone, the Global Fund supported 25.6 million people on life-saving antiretroviral therapy for HIV. Since the Global Fund was established in 2002, every \$1 contributed by the U.S. has been matched by \$2 from other donors — firmly establishing U.S. leadership while ensuring that we do not fight these deadly diseases alone. The administration recommitted to this 1:2 match last fall, and pledged \$4.6 billion for the next three years. This would save an estimated 1.9 million lives, prevent 34 million new infections from the three diseases, and support 2.4 million people on lifesaving antiretroviral therapy for HIV. The administration must also fully deliver the appropriated resources for the last Global Fund replenishment.

Despite significant progress in the fight against HIV/AIDS, the work is not over. According to UNAIDS' estimates, 9.2 million people — nearly a quarter of those living with HIV — are still not able to access the antiretroviral therapy they need to survive and thrive. With more than 40 million people living with HIV globally, prevention efforts, including those like the new twice a year injectable lenacapavir, must be scaled up.

PEPFAR, UNAIDS, and the Global Fund are leading global efforts to not only improve the HIV response, but also enable countries to increase investments in their domestic HIV response and to take on more of the financial and structural burdens of HIV programs. This approach will improve the overall health of their citizens by boosting local community capacity that positions partner countries to respond to a range of health challenges and threats. Providing strong support for PEPFAR, UNAIDS, and the Global Fund bolsters the United States' standing and cooperative relationship with the world, increasing our ability to strengthen health systems to mitigate disease outbreaks that risk impacting us here at home.



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These successes are only possible because of the longstanding bipartisan Congressional support for the programs. PEPFAR, UNAIDS, and the Global Fund have saved lives – but they require sufficient funding and an ongoing commitment to transparent, responsive, data-driven efforts to continue to do so. We support ongoing efforts to ensure a robust HIV response centered on accountability and coordination with Congressional input. With your leadership, we can get back on track to end HIV as a public health threat around the world, and we look forward to working with your committee to achieve these goals. Thank you for considering our request and for your ongoing bipartisan commitment to the fight against HIV/AIDS.

Sincerely,

Chrissy Houlahan
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Maria Elvira Salazar
Member of Congress

Ami Bera, M.D.
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Brian K. Fitzpatrick
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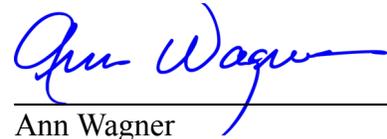
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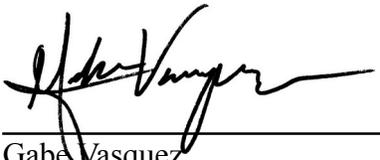
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