

# Support FY27 Appropriations for the Maternal & Child Health, Gavi, and Nutrition Accounts

Deadline: Tuesday, March 10, COB

To cosign, [please use Quill](#)

Dear Colleague:

We invite you to join us in signing the attached bipartisan letter to the National Security, Department of State, and Related Programs Subcommittee, urging the Chair and the Ranking Member to support funding for three key Global Health Programs at the Global Health Security and Diplomacy Bureau (GHSD). Specifically, it requests full funding for Nutrition (\$165 million) and Maternal and Child Health (MCH - \$915 million), which includes funding for Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance.

The United States is the world's leader in maternal and child health innovation. By leveraging this expertise globally, the U.S. has helped cut child mortality in half in the last 25 years. Investing in maternal and child health and nutrition is not simply a moral imperative - it's a strategic move that supports American values and protects our interests at home and abroad. These investments reduce preventable deaths, improve workforce productivity, and foster economic growth, which in turn can lower the risk of instability, migration pressures, and humanitarian crises that often require costly emergency responses. These investments are also key to preventing the spread of infectious diseases, stopping outbreaks before they reach American shores as recent pandemics have demonstrated. Maintaining robust funding for these accounts is vital to continuing to export American health innovation in a way that saves lives, promotes resilience, and helps create a more stable and prosperous global environment that benefits both the United States and its partners.

Please use [this Quill link to sign on to this letter](#). For any questions or concerns, please contact Clare Dentner ([Clare.Dentner@mail.house.gov](mailto:Clare.Dentner@mail.house.gov)) with Representative Fitzpatrick.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Brian Fitzpatrick

Sara Jacobs

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Maria Elvira Salazar

James P. McGovern

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Dear Chairman Diaz-Balart and Ranking Member Frankel,

As you determine priorities for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 National Security, Department of State, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, we respectfully request that you provide robust funding for Nutrition and Maternal and Child Health (MCH), which includes funding for Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance within the Global Health Programs account.

We appreciate this Committee's long-standing support for life-saving global nutrition and maternal and child health investments. Since 2000, U.S. supported programs have contributed to a 58 percent decline in under-five child mortality and a 42 percent decline in maternal mortality in priority countries. However, progress has slowed over the past decade as funding stagnated, and last year marked the first increase in global under-five deaths in decades. Today, 4.8 million children under five die annually from largely preventable and treatable causes, with malnutrition underlying nearly half of these deaths. Nearly 260,000 women die each year from preventable pregnancy-related causes. Sustained U.S. investment is critical to reversing these trends and continuing progress toward ending preventable maternal and child deaths.

The MCH account supports the delivery of cost-effective, proven services in countries bearing the highest burden of preventable maternal and child deaths. Over the past decade, U.S. bilateral MCH programs have helped save more than 6 million lives, enabled nearly 68 million women to give birth in a health facility, reached over 55 million newborns with postnatal care, provided almost 140 million treatments for childhood diarrhea and pneumonia, and trained more than 14 million health workers.

Strong MCH and nutrition funding advances U.S. strategic interests by promoting stability, strengthening partner economies, and reinforcing accountable, country-led health systems. The 2025 America First Global Health Strategy emphasizes these priorities and must build on the decades of progress.

A critical portion of the MCH account supports Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. Since 2000, Gavi has helped vaccinate more than 1.2 billion children and prevented nearly 21 million future deaths. In 2024, nearly all Gavi-supported countries met their vaccine co-financing obligations, and 55 vaccine programs are now fully self-financed by partner governments, demonstrating sustainability and country ownership. As the world's leading purchaser of U.S.-produced vaccines, Gavi also supports American manufacturing jobs and helps prevent outbreaks from reaching U.S. shores, strengthening global health security. Moreover, by averting outbreaks from spreading to the U.S., Gavi's work prevents expensive public health crises for Americans.

The Nutrition account targets the first 1,000 days, from pregnancy to a child's second birthday, when interventions have the greatest lifelong impact. This account supports a targeted set of high-impact interventions that can prevent the worst effects of severe malnutrition. In 2023, U.S. bilateral nutrition programs reached more than 28 million children and 11 million pregnant women with high-impact interventions such as prenatal supplementation, breastfeeding support, vitamin A distribution, and therapeutic foods (RUTF) for severely malnourished children. These children are much more likely to have weakened immune systems and are at risk of permanent physical and mental stunting, which

prevents them from reaching their full educational, social, and earning potential. These investments prevent long-term physical and cognitive stunting and reduce the global economic burden of malnutrition, estimated at \$3.5 trillion annually.

Full funding of the MCH and Nutrition accounts is critical for saving lives and reaching the U.S. Government's goal of ending preventable child and maternal deaths. To improve global maternal and child health and nutrition, we respectfully urge you to provide robust funding for these accounts within Global Health programs.

Thank you for your serious consideration of this request. We look forward to working with you to ensure that the United States maintains its leadership in this global effort to save lives.