



July 25, 2019

The Honorable Cheri Bustos  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1233 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2207 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable James McGovern  
U.S. House of Representatives  
408 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1035 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Bustos, Cole, McGovern, and McMorris Rodgers:

Aligning for Health, a coalition of leading healthcare insurers, providers, and vendors, is proud to support the introduction of the *Social Determinants Accelerator Act*.

Economic and social conditions have a significant impact on health and wellness. Stable housing, reliable transportation and access to healthy food are a few examples of social determinants of health that can make a difference in the prevention and management of many health conditions like diabetes, asthma and heart disease.

Our members are invested in improving the health and wellbeing of individuals by addressing social determinants of health, including creating food pharmacies, investing in housing, providing supportive housing services, establishing workforce training and resource programs, and employing community health workers to improve care coordination and linkages across programs and services.

In addition, our Advisory Board Members represent economic development, supportive housing, mental health, nutrition, and public health organizations, and include several current and former state Medicaid Directors.

One of the greatest challenges cited in achieving a holistic approach to the complex challenges facing vulnerable populations is the difficulty of coordinating health and social service programs. Such complexity often stymies innovative cross-sector efforts or limits the scope and scalability of initiatives at the state and local level.

We believe that in order to identify and scale effective preventative interventions, we must first build stronger evidence identifying which non-medical approaches produce better health outcomes, and we must break down the barriers that impede coordination between health and social services programs.

The Social Determinants Accelerator Act is what we need to move the ball forward. It will provide state, local and tribal governments with additional capacity and support to help overcome these challenges.



Thank you for your leadership and commitment to addressing social determinants of health to improve the well-being of our country's most vulnerable populations and maximize the coordination across important safety net programs.

Sincerely,

*Aligning for Health Members*

Alliance for Better Health  
American Hospital Association  
Amida Care  
Anthem  
Blue Cross Blue Shield Association  
Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina  
CareSource  
Centene  
Humana  
Molina  
Signify Health  
Solera  
UPMC Health Plan  
WellCare

*Aligning for Health Advisory Board Members*

Nicole Barcliff, Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)  
Anne De Biasi, Trust for America's Health (TFAH)  
Theresa Eagleson, Director of the Illinois Department of Healthcare & Family Services  
Jason Gromley, Share Our Strength  
Jason Helgeson, Helgeson Solutions Group and Former New York State Medicaid Director  
Jerold Mande, Tufts University, former Senior Advisor on Food/Nutrition, USDA  
Roger Low, America Forward  
Marcella Maguire, Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH)  
John Rother, National Coalition on Health Care (NCHC)  
Andrew Sperling, National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)  
Tracy Wareing Evans, American Public Human Services Association (APHSA)