

July 30, 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:

As local, state, and national organizations committed to investing in what works, and advancing innovative and effective solutions to our country's most pressing social problems, we write today to express our support for the Social Determinants Accelerator Act.

Economic and social conditions have a significant impact on health and wellness. Stable housing, access to high-quality education and high-wage employment, reliable transportation and healthy nutrition are all examples of social determinants of health that not only make for healthier communities, but can also make a measurable difference in the prevention and management of health conditions such as diabetes, asthma and heart disease, thereby reducing long-term health care costs.

Our members are committed to improving the health and wellbeing of individuals by investing in preventative programs that make communities healthier, including housing and supportive housing services, workforce training and resource programs, and high-quality preschool and child care.

One of the greatest challenges to achieving better long-term health outcomes for underserved communities 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 to identify which community-based 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 will provide state, local and tribal governments, and their nonprofit and social entrepreneur partners, with additional capacity, resources and support to overcome these challenges, helping to advance this vital field.

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.

Sincerely,

Acelero Learning
Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors
America Forward
America's Promise Alliance
Citizen Schools
City Year Inc.
Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH)
Early Learning Alliance
Enterprise Community Partners
Green & Healthy Homes Initiative
GreenLight Fund
iMentor
iNACOL
Institute for Child Success
KidSucceed LLC
Let's Grow Kids
LIFT, Inc
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Maycomb Capital Community Outcomes Fund
New Profit
New Teacher Center
Nonprofit Finance Fund
Project Evident
Quantified Ventures
REDF
Results for America
Roca
Single Stop
Springboard Collaborative
Third Sector
Wyman Center
Janice Gruendel, Professor, University of NC Charlotte ARCHES
Josh Ogburn, Director, University of Virginia Pay for Success Lab
Kathy Stack, former Deputy Associate Director, U.S. Office of Management and Budget