Presidential Advisory Council on AIDS (PACHA)  
Resolution in Support of FY2021 Budget for “Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America”

Whereas, as part of the Administration’s implementation and scale up of the Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) initiative, the President’s Fiscal Year 2021 budget includes increased funding for programs that will support efforts to end HIV in the U.S. within 10 years by increasing HIV testing, treatment and prevention services, initially focused in those geographic areas most impacted by HIV;

Whereas, building on the increased funding that the President proposed and Congress approved for Fiscal Year 2020, the President is recommending a further increase of $450 million for the second year of the EHE. Specifically, the budget proposes a $231 million increase for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), $95 million for the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program; $87 million for Community Health Centers, $27 million for the Indian Health Service, and $10 million for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Centers for AIDS Research;

Whereas, at the same time the President is proposing a $80 million cut to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s (HUD) Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program, a $263 million cut to AIDS Research at the NIH, and reforms to critically important programs such as Medicaid and Medicare that could reduce services to people living with and at risk of HIV;

Whereas, PACHA passed a resolution on October 22, 2019 urging the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services “to work with the Office of Management and Budget to ensure that the President’s budget for Fiscal Year 2021 contains the necessary resources to implement year two of the Ending the HIV Epidemic initiative by providing substantial increased resources to each of the agencies, programs, and communities implementing the initiative” while at the same time ensuring “there are no proposed cuts to programs such as the Housing and Urban Development’s Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS and other federal government programs that impact the success of meeting the goals of the Ending the HIV Epidemic”;

Therefore, be it resolved that PACHA commends the President and the Secretary for proposing the historic, substantial funding increases for year two of the EHE in order to scale up activities, while at the same time expresses concern regarding the proposed funding cuts;

Be it further resolved that we urge the Secretary to work with the Congress in a bipartisan manner to ensure that the proposed funding increases are realized, and the proposed cuts revisited.

February 10, 2020