

August 5, 2026

The Honorable Susan Collins
Chair, Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray
Vice Chair, Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
Chair, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related
Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and
Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Collins, Vice Chair Murray, Chair Moore Capito, and Ranking Member Baldwin:

On behalf of the National Alliance for Caregiving (NAC) and the Caregiver Nation Coalition, thank you for your continued, bipartisan support of family caregivers. We write to reiterate the FY 2027 funding request we submitted earlier this year and the written testimony we submitted on behalf of NAC to the Subcommittee on May 22, 2026 -- both of which urge the Committee to fund the following critical discretionary programs at the levels below as you finalize FY 2027 Labor-HHS-Education and Related Agencies appropriations legislation. We also are aware of the continuing resolution to fund the federal government before the Senate and recognize that funding levels will likely increase only marginally. Nonetheless, we implore the Committee to achieve the funding levels below via the forthcoming appropriations process, expected to take place in December.

Our organizations represent caregiving, aging, disability, and patient advocacy stakeholders across the caregiving continuum, with a shared goal of strengthening our nation's first-ever, bipartisan National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers. Family

caregivers are the backbone of our health care system, providing an estimated \$1 trillion in unpaid care each year while serving as essential partners to both patients and providers.

FY 2027 Funding Requests: Overview of Critical Caregiver Programs

At a minimum, we respectfully renew our request that the Subcommittee fund the following programs at the levels listed below:

- \$256,069,552 – Older Americans Act (OAA) Title III-E, National Family Caregiver Support Program (NFCSP), including a minimum of \$400,000 for the Recognize, Assist, Include, Support, and Engage (RAISE) Family Caregivers Advisory Council.
- \$18,000,000 – OAA Title VI-C, Native American Caregiver Support Services, which provides culturally appropriate caregiver supports for Tribal communities.
- \$4,000,000 – National Strategy Demonstration Grants, supporting implementation and testing of innovative strategies aligned with the National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers.
- \$20,000,000 – Lifespan Respite Care Program, which funds statewide systems of accessible, coordinated respite care for family caregivers of individuals of all ages and abilities.

As detailed in our May 22 testimony, these programs serve more than 700,000 family caregivers each year, including nearly one-third who support adults under the age of 65 with disabilities. Nearly one in five NFCSP participants live in rural areas, and more than half of caregivers receiving respite services report it enabled them to provide care longer. These are modest, cost-effective federal investments that help caregivers sustain their own health and well-being while helping older adults and people with disabilities remain safely in their homes and communities, delaying far more costly institutional care.

Current funding levels have not kept pace with the rapidly growing population of family caregivers, the increasing complexity of the care they provide, or the rising costs of care driven by inflation. As you finalize the Senate bill and work with the House to develop the FY 2027 appropriations legislation, we urge you to not only protect but meaningfully strengthen these investments. We stand ready to provide additional information, data, or technical assistance as you navigate these decisions, and we welcome the opportunity to discuss how these investments can be best structured to support caregivers nationwide.

Thank you for your continued leadership and commitment to the millions of Americans who provide care every day.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Resendez
President and CEO
National Alliance for Caregiving

cc:

*Members, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education, and Related Agencies:*