



August 13, 2012

The Honorable Tom Harkin  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS and Education Appropriations  
U.S. Senate  
131 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington DC 20510

Dear Chairman Harkin,

The undersigned members of the Diabetes Advocacy Alliance™ (DAA) are writing today to offer our sincerest thanks to you for the doubling of the National Diabetes Prevention Program in your Fiscal Year 2013 Labor, HHS and Education Appropriation's bill from \$10 million in FY2012 to \$20 million in FY 2013.

These dollars will enable a faster spread of this evidence-based diabetes prevention program by growing the number and size of national networks delivering the program. The resources will also help CDC educate the general public and provider groups about the alarming rates of prediabetes among the U.S. populations and alert them to the availability of this program, which could dramatically slow the growth of diabetes in this country.

The DAA is a coalition of 19 members, representing patient, professional and trade associations, other nonprofit organizations, and corporations, all united in the desire to change the way diabetes is viewed and treated in America. The members of the DAA work to inform and educate legislators and other policymakers about:

- The enormous challenges that diabetes and prediabetes pose to US health and prosperity.
- How legislation and public policy can help change the course of significant growth in the population of people with type 2 diabetes and complications associated with the disease expected in the coming decades.

DAA has been a strong advocate for resources for the National Diabetes Prevention Program and we were also pleased by the support expressed to the Full Committee and Subcommittee by 17 of your Senate colleagues in a March 2012 letter led by Senators Al Franken and Richard Lugar urging full funding for this program.

In the coming weeks, we will be redoubling our efforts to urge Congress to provide the Senate funding level for this program as the FY 2013 appropriations process moves forward. We were also pleased that 72 Representatives signed onto a letter to the Chair and Ranking Member of the House Subcommittee on Labor, HHS and Education Appropriations urging the committee to provide a *minimum* of \$10 million for the National DPP.

Thank you again for your continued focus on prevention and wellness. We believe that this investment could result in millions of lives improved and billions of dollars saved.

Sincerely,

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (formerly the American Dietetic Association)

American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists

American Association of Diabetes Educators

American Clinical Laboratory Association

American Diabetes Association

Healthcare Leadership Council

National Kidney Foundation

Novo Nordisk Inc.

The Endocrine Society

YMCA of the USA

CC: Senator Al Franken  
Senator Dick Lugar  
Representative Reid Ribble  
Representative Susan Davis