

10/21/08

The Honorable Congressman Henry Waxman, Chairman (D-CA 30th Dist.)  
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform  
2204 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

RE: CDC Director Gerberding and NIH Directors Fauci and Fenton request for an additional \$4.8 billion dollars for HIV/AIDS programs

Dear Congressman Waxman,

In regards to the above referenced request by the NIH Directors, please note the following facts that are most pertinent in this time of our country's and our government's financial crisis:

- The amount of funding on HIV disease by our government since the inception of HIV in our country is now approximately \$275 billion dollars.<sup>i</sup> We are spending \$700 billion to rescue our country and we've budgeted/or spent more than one-third that amount on one disease.
- The 2009 HIV/AIDS budget request is already large at \$24.1 billion.<sup>ii</sup>
- The NIH NIAID budget for HIV/AIDS bio-medical research is \$2.9 billion, which is a full ten percent of the entire bio-medical research budget.<sup>iii</sup>
- HIV/AIDS deaths have plummeted over 90 percent in many states (see enclosed sheet).
- \$48 billion has been budgeted this year for PEPFAR and global HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria. Consider: the amount of NIH bio-medical research on every disease know to man is only \$29 billion yet we budget \$48 billion, a preponderance of which will go toward one disease in one country: HIV in Africa.<sup>iv</sup>
- The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has spent approximately \$7 billion on global HIV efforts to date and is approaching \$1 billion in expenditures for HIV vaccine research.<sup>v</sup>
- Warren Buffet has pledged most of his wealth to the Gates Foundation and Buffet is supportive of Gates bias in favor of HIV/AIDS funding.<sup>vi</sup>
- Our country's top HIV/AIDS researcher, Dr. Fauci has said, "...the scientific advancements that have been made in HIV [research] are breathtaking [with] highly effective drugs to suppress HIV to the point where what was a death sentence in the early eighties to now having patients who look and feel well, who are leading very productive, very gratifying lives..."
  - I have included a CD of Dr. Fauci stating this telling statement for your review.

When our organization exhibits at large conventions and the attendees see our banner that is shown on the enclosed brochure, a new member joins, on average, every 2 minutes all day long while expressing great anger and disgust at the favoritism that continues to be afforded HIV disease in funding by our government.

For example, it is well recognized that hepatitis C (HCV) is responsible for more deaths in AIDS patients than the opportunistic infections that used to kill them.<sup>vii</sup> Diabetes kills more Americans than AIDS and breast cancer combined and cardiovascular disease (CVD) kills 871,000 compared to 14,016 for AIDS. The NIH is spending \$20, \$39, \$29 on each patient with HCV, diabetes & CVD on bio-medical research versus \$2,774 on each HIV patient. Similar small amounts are being allocated for thousands of other illnesses, including 6,000 rare illnesses that receive, on average, only \$200,000 per illness from the NIH for biomedical research.<sup>viii</sup> It is time to cease the favoritism for HIV.

We are respectfully requesting that this request for an addition \$4.8 billion be denied and that consideration be given to increasing the funding for non-AIDS illnesses. Indeed, with budgetary limitations now in place due to our government's financial crisis that prevent overall increases, we recommend that Congress and the NIH do what homeowners are doing: reallocating funds where appropriate, in this case from HIV to other illnesses that have not had the same success that Dr. Fauci has laudably achieved and describes so well on the CD.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and with great respect for your efforts we are,



and our 27-member Board of Directors listed below

Richard Darling, DDS, Past National Public Citizen of the Year

President & CEO, FAIR Foundation

Founder: The FAIR Foundation Liver Disease & Transplant Support Group

Author: Coma Life, an autobiographical memoir of life "within" coma and survival over hepatitis C, liver cancer, 3 liver transplants, heart attack, diabetes & muscular dystrophy

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<sup>i</sup> Henry J. Kaiser Foundation reports \$150 billion HIV funding up to 2004. Every year thereafter the amount budgeted has been \$20+ billion including \$24.1 billion for 2009. In addition, one must note the \$48 billion PEPFAR funding, of which approx \$30 billion is for global AIDS.

<sup>ii</sup> <http://www.kff.org/hivaids/upload/7029-041.pdf>

<sup>iii</sup> <http://www.nih.gov/news/fundingresearchareas.htm>

<sup>iv</sup> [http://kaisernetwork.org/daily\\_reports/rep\\_index.cfm?DR\\_ID=53609](http://kaisernetwork.org/daily_reports/rep_index.cfm?DR_ID=53609)

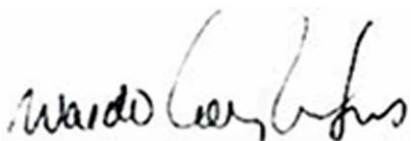
<sup>v</sup> [http://fairfoundation.org/news\\_letter/2006/04sept/newsletter.htm](http://fairfoundation.org/news_letter/2006/04sept/newsletter.htm)

<sup>vi</sup> [http://fairfoundation.org/news\\_letter/2006/04sept/newsletter.htm](http://fairfoundation.org/news_letter/2006/04sept/newsletter.htm)

<sup>vii</sup> [http://fairfoundation.org/specter\\_letter\\_hcv\\_in\\_aids\\_pts.pdf](http://fairfoundation.org/specter_letter_hcv_in_aids_pts.pdf)

<sup>viii</sup> <http://www.fairfoundation.org/factslinks.htm>

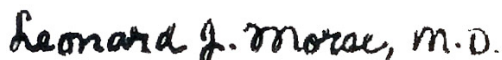
The FAIR Foundation Board of Directors as co-signers of this letter



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Associate Chief, Div. of Transplantation  
Stanford University School of Medicine



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Chairman, Department of General Surgery  
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Donald J. Hillebrand, MD  
Medical Director, Liver Transplant  
Scripps Green Hospital  
La Jolla, CA

*Okechukwu N. Ojogho, MD.*

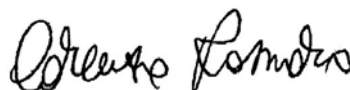
Okechukwu N. Ojogho, MD  
Director, Transplantation Institute  
Loma Linda University Medical Center

*Pedro Baron, MD*

Pedro Baron, MD  
Director: Pediatric/Adult Liver Transplant  
Loma Linda Univ. Medical Center



Phil Berry, MD  
Founder/Past President: Texas Medical Assoc.  
President, Texas Medical Assoc. Foundation  
Past member, UNOS Board & Finance, Dallas, TX



Lorenzo Rossaro, MD, FACP  
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Melba Moore, MS  
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St. Louis Department of Public Health

*Charles Goodacre, DDS, MS*

Charles Goodacre, DDS, MS  
Dean, School of Dentistry, Loma Linda U.  
Past President, American Board of Pros.

***Thomas G. Peters, MD***

Thomas G. Peters, MD  
Director: Shands Jacksonville Transplant Center  
Jacksonville, Florida

***Robert Gish, MD***

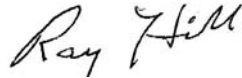
Robert Gish, MD  
Med. Director: Liver Dis. & Transplant  
California Pacific Medical Center  
San Francisco, CA



Dave Courtney, Patient Advocate  
Alpha-1-Antitrypsin disease  
VP: The Presumed Consent Foundation  
President: Texas Panhandle Chapter, TRIO

***Jacqueline Marcell***

Patient Advocate: Alzheimer's disease,  
Caregivers and Elder Awareness  
Author/Publisher: *Elder Rage* & Radio Host  
Irvine, California



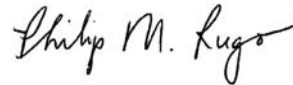
Ray Hill, Patient Advocate, HIV/AIDS and Hep C  
ACLU Lifetime Achievement Award  
Houston's Gay Male Hero Award-7 years



Bill Remak, B.Sc.MT, BA PHA  
Chairman, California Hep. C Task Force  
Founder, Nat Assoc of Hep. Task Forces



Jan Warner, Executive Director  
The Dennis James United Cerebral Palsy Center  
Cathedral City, CA



Philip Rugo, Patient Advocate: ALD  
Director: Harrison House Substance &  
Abuse Rehabilitation Center  
Northampton, MA

***Jill Weissman, Pharm. D.***

Jill Weissman, Pharm. D.  
Transplant Pharmacist; Assist. Professor  
Loma Linda University Medical Ctr.



Sandy Rodgers, Patient Advocate  
Parkinson's Disease and Stroke  
Kapalua, Maui, Hawaii



Arthur Curley, Attorney-at-Law  
President, Bradley Curley Asiano, PC  
Larkspur, California



Norman Kay, Patient Advocate:  
Prostate Cancer  
Lahaina, Maui, Hawaii

***Jim Ward***

Jim Ward, Captain, SC, USNR (Ret.)  
Patient Advocate: Cardiovascular Disease

***Richard Swabb, MD***

Richard Swabb, MD  
Board Certified in Nephrology & Int. Med  
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***Kress Darling***

Patient Advocate, COPD  
Cathedral City, California

***Leigh Aveling, D.Min***

Chaplain & Associate Professor  
School of Religion  
Loma Linda University



### HIV/AIDS Death Totals by State including the District of Columbia Compiled from each State's Department of Public Health

NOTE\* The death totals from many states' (e.g. CA, IL) include deaths from non-AIDS causes, such as automobile accidents, assault, heart attack, etc. In other instances, HIV/AIDS deaths are under-reported due to insufficient reporting and in some instances, opportunistic infections are stated on the death certificate instead of HIV/AIDS.

| State                                | Deaths | Year | % ↓ |
|--------------------------------------|--------|------|-----|
| <a href="#">Alabama</a>              | 132    | 2006 | 72% |
| <a href="#">Alaska</a>               | 6      | 2006 | 84% |
| <a href="#">Arizona</a>              | 33     | 2006 | 84% |
| <a href="#">Arkansas</a>             | 73     | 2006 | 62% |
| <a href="#">California</a>           | 1,113  | 2007 | 86% |
| <a href="#">Colorado</a>             | 82     | 2006 | 80% |
| <a href="#">Connecticut</a>          | 74     | 2006 | 91% |
| <a href="#">Delaware</a>             | 83     | 2006 | 54% |
| <a href="#">District of Columbia</a> | 224    | 2006 | 33% |
| <a href="#">Florida</a>              | 1,746  | 2006 | 60% |
| <a href="#">Georgia Pg. 23</a>       | 679    | 2006 | N/A |
| <a href="#">Hawaii</a>               | 25     | 2005 | 93% |
| <a href="#">Idaho Pg. 17</a>         | 10     | 2006 | N/A |
| <a href="#">Illinois</a>             | 192    | 2007 | 89% |
| <a href="#">Indiana</a>              | 7      | 2006 | 75% |
| <a href="#">Iowa</a>                 | 16     | 2007 | 85% |
| <a href="#">Kansas</a>               | 31     | 2006 | 77% |
| <a href="#">Kentucky Pg 24</a>       | 4      | 2006 | 98% |
| <a href="#">Louisiana</a>            | 500    | 2005 | N/A |
| <a href="#">Maine "Epi Profile"</a>  | 11     | 2006 | 84% |
| <a href="#">Maryland</a>             | 386    | 2006 | 75% |
| <a href="#">Massachusetts</a>        | 179    | 2006 | 82% |
| <a href="#">Michigan</a>             | 214    | 2007 | 77% |
| <a href="#">Minnesota (Table 4)</a>  | 56     | 2006 | 90% |
| <a href="#">Mississippi</a>          | 27     | 2006 | 89% |

| State                          | Deaths | Year | % ↓ |
|--------------------------------|--------|------|-----|
| <a href="#">Missouri</a>       | 129    | 2007 | N/A |
| <a href="#">Montana</a>        | 6      | 2006 | 77% |
| <a href="#">Nebraska</a>       | 24     | 2006 | N/A |
| <a href="#">Nevada</a>         | 106    | 2007 | 71% |
| <a href="#">New Hampshire</a>  | 11     | 2005 | N/A |
| <a href="#">New Jersey</a>     | 528    | 2006 | 79% |
| <a href="#">New Mexico</a>     | 51     | 2006 | 78% |
| <a href="#">New York</a>       | 1,209  | 2006 | 86% |
| <a href="#">North Carolina</a> | 425    | 2006 | N/A |
| <a href="#">North Dakota</a>   | 3      | 2006 | N/A |
| <a href="#">Ohio</a>           | 196    | 2006 | 80% |
| <a href="#">Oklahoma</a>       | 9      | 2006 | 97% |
| <a href="#">Oregon</a>         | 48     | 2006 | 86% |
| <a href="#">Pennsylvania</a>   | 97     | 2006 | 95% |
| <a href="#">Rhode Island</a>   | 26     | 2006 | 87% |
| <a href="#">South Carolina</a> | 249    | 2005 | 55% |
| <a href="#">South Dakota</a>   | 8      | 2006 | N/A |
| <a href="#">Tennessee</a>      | 333    | 2006 | 50% |
| <a href="#">Texas</a>          | 1,029  | 2006 | 62% |
| <a href="#">Utah</a>           | 23     | 2006 | 85% |
| <a href="#">Vermont</a>        | 6      | 2006 | N/A |
| <a href="#">Virginia</a>       | 183    | 2006 | 81% |
| <a href="#">Washington</a>     | 83     | 2007 | 86% |
| <a href="#">West Virginia</a>  | 9      | 2006 | 92% |
| <a href="#">Wisconsin</a>      | 72     | 2006 | 81% |
| <a href="#">Wyoming</a>        | 12     | 2006 | N/A |

The total reported above by all fifty states and DC is **10,778**.

The Center for Disease Control estimate is 30 percent higher at **14,016**.

% ↓ = the percentage drop in deaths since the high year in that state

Note: it has been stated by the CDC that the deaths in the District of Columbia have not been reported correctly by the DC Department of Health. In [this 2000-2005 analysis](#) by

the CDC, it is likely that the DC number should be in the vicinity of 324 as opposed to 224 that the District of Columbia reports [here](#). We are waiting for the corrected number to be issued.

In addition to the links attached to each state above, the Departments of Health web sites for all fifty states are provided by the CDC at

<http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/topics/surveillance/resources/reports/2006report/webaddress.htm>

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... ..



When you were in high school, if your father had slipped you \$29 in crisp dollar bills, you would've been elated. But what if he then turned to your sister and handed her \$2,774? Would you have shouted...

“That’s not fair!”

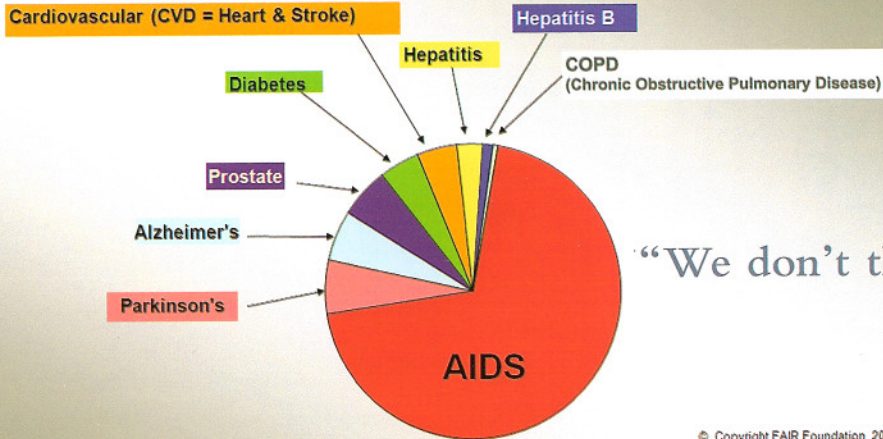
Without a doubt.

**The FAIR**  
Fair Allocations In Research  
**FOUNDATION**

“Is this fair?”



### NIH Research Money Budgeted per Death



“We don't think so!”

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The Issue

Cardiovascular disease kills 870,000 per year vs. 14,016 for AIDS  
Cardiovascular disease: \$2,714 per death vs. \$206,906 for AIDS



# THE TRUTH

Believe it or not, if you or a loved one suffer from cardiovascular disease (CVD) or any other disease except cancer, our government has handed you that \$29 dollars for bio-medical research or a similar small amount, while unfairly giving each of your sisters and brothers – a.k.a. patients suffering from AIDS – a whopping \$2,774.

The lion's share of the Federal research budget is spent on AIDS – a disease that is killing a fraction of Americans each year when compared with diseases like diabetes and Alzheimer's. Even the flu kills twice as many people as AIDS.

CVD kills 870,000 every year, which is 62 times more than AIDS. Diabetes kills more Americans than AIDS and breast cancer combined, yet the government is spending only \$39 on each diabetic compared to that \$2,774 on each HIV patient. The shocking truth is that CVD receives over 1/2 billion less than AIDS, and the increase in AIDS funding since 1999—just the increase— is greater than the entire budget for every other disease except cancer. Billions for AIDS also comes from pharmaceutical companies, the 50 states, celebrities and well-intentioned citizens like Bill Gates.

## FAIR IS FAIR

The FAIR (Fair Allocations In Research) Foundation is dedicated to equitable research funds for all diseases, including the 16 that kill a million more Americans than AIDS annually. Our secondary factors insure diseases that cause great suffering with low mortality (6,000 rare illnesses) will also receive increased funding.

AIDS activists should be commended for reducing AIDS deaths 98 percent in California's newly infected patients and over 90% in many other States. But now it is time to start giving other diseases their fair share of research dollars so that they, too, can experience better health.

But the need for change isn't just about AIDS. The amount spent on research for the "Health Effects of Climate Change" is greater than the funding for brain cancer, Down Syndrome, cystic fibrosis, autism, cerebral palsy, cervical cancer, hepatitis B & C, multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, uterine cancer and 6,000 other maladies. That's not fair either.

Choose today to join the thousands of FAIR Foundation members and supporters in all fifty states who are calling for change.



A 501(c)(3) NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

Ph: 760-200-2766

E-mail: fair@dc.rr.com

www.fairfoundation.org

## Are these Fair Allocations In Research?

| Disease                | 2009 NIH Research \$ | Deaths Per Disease | \$ Per Patient Death | \$ Per Patient |
|------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| COPD                   | 90 Million           | 126,128            | \$ 714               | \$ 7           |
| Hepatitis C            | 107 Million          | 12,000             | \$ 8,916             | \$ 20          |
| Cardiovascular Disease | 2.3 Billion          | 871,500            | \$ 2,714             | \$ 29          |
| Hepatitis B            | 42 Million           | 5,000              | \$ 8,400             | \$ 34          |
| Diabetes               | 1 Billion            | 74,817             | \$ 13,365            | \$ 39          |
| Parkinson's Disease    | 186 Million          | 19,547             | \$ 9,516             | \$ 124         |
| Alzheimer's Disease    | 644 Million          | 71,696             | \$ 8,928             | \$ 124         |
| Prostate Cancer        | 344 Million          | 27,050             | \$ 12,717            | \$ 181         |
| HIV/AIDS               | 2.9 Billion          | 14,016             | \$ 206,906           | \$ 2,774       |
| All Cancers Total      | 5.5 Billion          | 559,650            | \$ 9,888             | \$ 3,830       |
| Breast Cancer          | 716 Million          | 40,910             | \$ 17,501            | \$ 3,967       |
| West Nile Virus        | 56 Million           | 124                | \$ 451,613           | \$ 15,427      |

6,000 orphan (rare) diseases receive, on average, only \$200,000 per illness.

Visit our website to view our 27-member Board of Directors of surgeons, medical directors, dentists, pharmacists and patient advocates.

# WE NEED YOUR HELP

The FAIR Foundation is determined to increase research funding for your disease of interest. Please tear off this page and send your donation today. We thank you for your support!

**YES, I WANT TO HELP! PLEASE ACCEPT MY DONATION OF \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

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Address

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City, State, Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address

Please mail to: FAIR, 78-629 Bougainvillea Drive, Palm Desert, CA 92211

Charge my:

VISA  Discover  MC  AMEX

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Card Holder Signature

Check/Money Order enclosed

Please make checks payable to "FAIR Foundation."

