



We are very pleased to announce that Congress has passed a 2016 budget which addresses many of the concerns raised by the HIV and nursing communities. This budget takes us through the 2016 fiscal year, ending on Sept. 30.

Among the thousands of provisions, there are many that affect or are of interest to ANAC and our members. Most HIV, nursing and related budget items were either increased or maintained at 2015 levels, which is encouraging, although not perfect. Highlights include:

- Approval to use federal funds for syringe services programs, although some restrictions still apply.
- Rejection of proposed cuts and an increase or level funding for critical domestic HIV and hepatitis programs.
- Increase in funding for the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program by \$4 million. However, the proposal to consolidate Parts C and D of the Ryan White Program was rejected, so that only Part C will receive increase. All other parts will receive level funding.
- Restoration of proposed cuts to Special Projects of National Significance (SPNS) and the Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI)
- Increase in funding for the National Institutes of Health, which includes an increase of \$5.5 million for the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR)
- Increase in funding for viral hepatitis prevention at the CDC of \$2.7 million. This is significantly less than the nearly \$32 million increase proposed by the President and advocates.
- Increase in funding for the Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA) by \$5 million. However, this deal fails to modernize the HOPWA formula to better reflect the reality of people living with HIV/AIDS rather than cumulative AIDS cases.
- The following programs will maintain funding at 2015 levels:
 - HIV prevention at the CDC
 - Global HIV spending
 - The President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), although Congress did not restore the PEPFAR funding cuts included in previous budgets as requested.
 - The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
- Decrease of \$2.1 million for Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development program funding. Within this, the Advanced Education Nursing Program will get an increase of \$1 million and the NURSE Corps Loan Repayment and Scholarship programs will get an increase of \$1.4 million.