November 2, 2023

The Honorable Bernie Sanders
Chairman, Senate Committee
on Health, Education Labor and Pensions
332 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ron Wyden Chairman, Senate Finance Committee 221 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 The Honorable Bill Cassidy
Ranking Member, Senate Committee
on Health, Education Labor and Pensions
455 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Crapo
Ranking Member, Senate Finance Committee
239 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Sanders, Ranking Member Cassidy, Chairman Wyden, and Ranking Member Crapo,

We, the below signed stakeholders, represent a wide range of organizations deeply involved in, and committed to, increasing access to high-quality addiction care for all who need it in this country. We sincerely thank you for the steps you have taken thus far toward this objective, but more needs to be done. Today, we humbly request that your committees bring forward the reauthorization of the Substance Use-Disorder Prevention That Promotes Opioid Recovery and Treatment for Patients and Communities Act (SUPPORT Act; P.L. 115-271) as soon as possible.

Our nation's addiction and overdose crisis continues to spiral out of control. Record numbers of Americans are dying from overdoses, largely driven by illicitly manufactured fentanyl, but complicated by other substances, like xylazine and methamphetamine.<sup>1</sup> This seemingly unstoppable trend, however, will not abate without using every tool in our toolbox. Enactment of the SUPPORT Act five years ago was a collective triumph, but it has sadly been allowed to lapse. It is estimated that more than 112,000 drug overdose deaths occurred in the U.S. in the 12-month period ending May 2023 — there is no time to spare.<sup>2</sup>

The SUPPORT Act must not only be reauthorized, but also expanded to include bipartisan policies that increase access to medications for treatment of opioid use disorder. By expanding the SUPPORT Act reauthorization, Congress can remove barriers to lifesaving treatment for Americans at greatest risk of fatal overdose, including individuals who are incarcerated and those exposed to fentanyl. Failing to do so forfeits one of the few opportunities your committees have this Congress to pass new and necessary approaches to the overdose crisis.

In July, the House Energy and Commerce Committee approved a new, but measured SUPPORT Act reauthorization bill that has important provisions. However, it warrants your immediate attention and further strengthening. We urge the Senate Committee on Health, Education Labor and Pensions and Senate Finance Committee to work together to reauthorize and reinvigorate the SUPPORT Act this November.

Sincerely, American Society of Addiction Medicine **Overdose Prevention Initiative** A New PATH Academy of General Dentistry Acenda Integrated Health Addiction Care of Excellence **AIDS Foundation Chicago** Alabama Society of Addiction Medicine Aletheia House **Amare** American Academy of Pediatrics American Association of Psychiatric Pharmacists American Association on Health and Disability American College of Clinical Pharmacy American College of Emergency Physicians American College of Medical Toxicology American Mental Health Counselors Association American Osteopathic Academy of Addiction Medicine American Psychological Association Services AMERSA, Inc. Anonymity VA Anxiety and Depression Association of America Any Positive Change Inc.

Appleseed Community Mental Health Center, Inc.

ART Of Coaching, Inc.

Asana Recovery

Association for Behavioral Health and Wellness

Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs Association of Persons Affected by Addiction Astron Legal Nurse Consulting Beacon of Hope Champions Ministries, LLC Begin Anew Recovery Behavioral Health Foundation Behavioral Health Network BHABrehab.com Bicycle Health Big Blue Eye Consulting, LLC Big Cities Health Coalition **Boston Medical Center Boulder Care** Braeburn, Inc. **Broken No More** Care Plus NJ CaringWorks, Inc. **Catholic Charities Center for Addiction Treatment** Center for Housing & Health Center Point, Inc. CenterPointe Central City Concern Central Minnesota Mental Health Center Central Plains Center CleanSlate Outpatient Addiction Medicine Clinical Consultants of Boston Colorado Hospital Association

Colorado Society of Addiction Medicine

CommuniCare, Inc. **Community Catalyst Community Counseling Center Community Counseling Center of Mercer County** Community Health Action of Staten Island Community in Crisis Community Reach Center Community Recovery Alliance Conifer Park and Liberty Behavioral Management Group **Connections Health Solutions COPE Network Cornerstone Montgomery** Cornerstone Southern Maryland Crisis and Counseling Centers, Inc. **CRS Recovery** Connecticut Community Nonprofit Alliance **DePaul Community Services Detroit Recovery Project** Door to Serenity Drug & Alcohol Service Providers Organization of Pennsylvania Edwin C. Chapman MD PC **Elevant Health** Elizabeth Rose Olsen Foundation Inc **ENVIVE Solutions** Esther Residence, Inc Even Keel Health & Adolescent Health Center Family and Children's Association (FCA) Flagler Open Arms Recovery Services

Flint Odyssey House, Inc

Footprints, Inc. Foundation for Drug Policy Solutions FourLifers Incorporated Franklin County House of Corrections Fresno New Connections, Inc Gateway Foundation, Inc. Georgia Mental Health Consumer Network Grayken Center for Addiction at Boston Medical Center, Boston University Group Six Partners, LLC Gulf Coast Health Center Inc Harbor Point Therapy, PLLC Harlem United Harm Reduction Action Center Harvest Healing Foundation, Inc. Hawai'i Opioid & Consumer Alliance Haymarket Center Health Policy Network LLC HealthRIGHT 360 **Henry Edwards HIV Alliance** Hope and Wellness Resources **Hope House Treatment Centers** IC&RC Illinois Society of Addiction Medicine **IMPOWER** 

Integrity House
International Society for Psychiatric Mental Health Nurses
Iowa Harm Reduction Coalition

Indiana Council of Community Mental Health Centers

Iowa Mental Health Advocacy

Johnson County Mental Health Center

Kentucky Harm Reduction Coalition

Kentucky Society of Addiction Medicine

Lake Charles Addiction and Wellness

Lakeshore Foundation

LDC Wellbeing

Leading By Example LLC

Lissa Franklin and Associates

Little River Medical Center

Live Rite Structured Recovery Corp

LMGCA

Louisiana Society of Addiction Medicine

Magnolia Center, Inc.

Mandolin Foundation

Massachusetts Health & Hospital Association

Massage Kneads

Mat-Su Health Foundation

McClendon Center

**MDRS** 

Mental Health & Inclusion Ministries

Mental Health America

Mental Health America of Licking County

Mental Health Recovery Board Clark, Greene, Madison Counties

Mercer Council on Alcoholism and Drug Addiction

Minot Area Recovery Community Organization

Missouri Behavioral Health Council

Mobilize Recovery

**Mogollon Treatment Center** 

M	O	n	a	r	c	h

Montgomery County Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health, Inc.

National Association for Behavioral Health

National Association of County Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability Directors

National Alliance on Mental Illness

National Alliance on Mental Illness Queens/Nassau

National Association of Addiction Treatment Providers

National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists

National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners

National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors

National Council for Mental Wellbeing

National Harm Reduction Coalition

National Healthcare for the Homeless Council

National Safety Council

National Survivors Union/New England Drug Users Union/Never Use Alone/ Massachusetts Overdose Prevention Helpline

**NCADD Maryland** 

Netsmart

Never Use Alone, Inc.

New Jersey Association of Mental Health & Addiction Agencies, Inc.

**New Start** 

Nurse's Court, LLC

Odyssey House Louisiana, Inc.

Odyssey House New York

Open Sky Community Services, Inc.

Ophelia Health, Inc.

Our2sons

Overdose Crisis Response Fund

Partnership to End Addiction

Peer 360 Recovery Alliance People Engaged In Recovery Perry Wellness Center PHAM **Pivot Solutions LLC** Plains Area Mental, Inc. Podesta Wellness Powell Recovery Center, Inc. President, Connecticut Chapter of American Society of Addiction Medicine The Meyers Group Public Justice Center **Putnam County Medical Mission** Pyramid Healthcare, Inc. Reboot Jackson Recovery Advocates in Livingston, Inc, Recovery Alliance Recovery Centers of Arkansas--Oasis Renewal Center Recycled Books INC Red Rock Behavioral Health Services ReDiscover Relatives Against Purdue Pharma (RAPP) RI International **Rincon Family Services** Rio Salado Behavioral Health Systems, Inc. **Rural AIDS Action Network** Sabater Laboratory for Psychological Innovations Inc AND The SabaterLAB Foundation Samaritan Daytop Village, Inc San Francisco Drug Users Union Sarita Lynne Ministries

Sea Change Recovery Community Org Serna Solutions LLC Setbacks to Comebacks Shatterproof Shawnee Health SHE RECOVERS Foundation **Simmons University** Smart Approaches to Marijuana **SMART Recovery** South Jersey AIDS Alliance **South Texas Patient Advocacy** Southeast Florida Recovery Advocates, Inc Southwest Network Stanford Sierra Youth & Families State Health Partners STEP Mation, inc. Substance Abuse Prevention Team of Essex County, Inc. Summit Recovery Hub Sycamores Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities TCAM MS LLC The Center for Great Expectations The Clinic, Enid, Oklahoma The Family Counseling Center of Fulton County, Inc. The Family Focused Treatment Association The Happier Life Project The Kennedy Forum The McShin Foundation The Never Alone Clubhouse

The Ohio Council of Behavioral Health & Family Services Provider The Porchlight Collective SAP The Purpose of Recovery Tennessee Hospital Association The WrightTime4Change Third Horizon Strategies Today I Matter, Inc **Total Family Care Coalition Treatment Communities of America** Trilogy, Inc. True Nature Recovery Counseling **Turning Point Community Programs** University of Minnesota-Broadway Family Medicine Clinic/North Memorial Hospital Family Medicine **Residency Program** USARA Venango Training & Development Cener, Inc. Vesta, Inc. VIP Community Services, Inc. Virginia State Chapter of American Society of Addiction Medicine Voices of Hope - Lexington, Inc. Voices of Hope, Inc. Voices of Recovery San Mateo County Volunteers of America, Utah Vstar Behavioral Health Services PLLC Wabash Valley Recovery Center Warren Family Recovery Wellbeing Initiative, Inc. WellPower WestCare Foundation, Inc.

WestCare Gulf Coast Region

Westside Family Health Center

Whitlock Consulting

Why Us Kids?

Wilkes Recovery Revolution, Inc.

Will Work for Recovery

**Woodland Centers** 

Woodlock and Associates

Workit Health

Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic

Young People in Recovery

YourPath Care, PLLC

- 1. Fentanyl is killing thousands, but Congress has no answer for the opioid crisis POLITICO. Accessed October 24, 2023. https://www.politico.com/news/2023/10/22/100-000-deaths-is-not-a-success-congress-has-no-answer-for-the-opioid-crisis-00122867
- 2. Ahmad F, Cisewski J, Rossen L, Sutton P. Provisional drug overdose death counts. Published online 2023.