

February 23, 2017

The Hon. Mick Mulvaney
Executive Office of the President
Office of Management and Budget

RE: Retain the Office of National Drug Control Policy

Dear Mr. Mulvaney:

We are thankful to the Trump Administration for prioritizing the reduction of drug use, drug trafficking, and its consequences. We represent former and current federal, state, and local officials, hundreds of community-based organizations, and tens of thousands of people working in drug prevention, drug treatment, drug treatment courts, mental health, recovery, medicine, law enforcement, and millions of individuals in recovery from alcohol and drug use disorders. Like the Administration, we believe drugs are a serious issue.

In light of the Administration's prioritization, we write in strong support of the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), due to the critical and unique role the office serves:

- ONDCP eliminates waste and fraud in the federal government by preventing duplicate programs and strategies among various federal agencies, designed to reduce drug consumption (through prevention, treatment, and recovery support) and its consequences, and to eliminate drug trafficking.
- ONDCP oversees/coordinates federal efforts to combat the opioid overdose epidemic, which has been the fastest growing drug epidemic in U.S. history. It coordinates all federal agencies responsible for reducing drug trafficking and use, and thus ensures agencies adhere to the President's priorities and are not duplicative or wasteful.
- ONDCP brings essential expertise to the table on complex drug issues, expertise that would otherwise be missing or dispersed across multiple agencies.
- ONDCP holds all federal, state, and local agencies accountable for achieving specific goals to reduce drug trafficking, use, and other consequences.
- ONDCP funds and oversees vital programs to reduce drug use and drug trafficking:
 - The critically important Drug Free Communities (DFC) program, which provides funding directly to communities to prevent drug use. DFC-funded coalitions are proven to effectively reduce alcohol, tobacco, marijuana and prescription drug misuse among middle and high school-aged children.
 - The High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) program, which coordinates federal, state, and local law enforcement to streamline efforts to dismantle drug trafficking organizations and bring drug traffickers to justice.

At a time when drugs now kill more people than firearms or car crashes, it is more important than ever for ONDCP to remain a strong voice in the White House and a visible presence nationally.

Sincerely,

A New PATH
Addiction Haven
Addiction Medicine Foundation
Addiction Policy Forum
Advocates for Recovery Colorado
Alabama Citizens Action Program
Alano Club of Portland
American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry
American Academy of Family Physicians
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Association for the Treatment of Opioid Dependence
American Association of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American Correctional Association
American Osteopathic Academy of Addiction Medicine
American Osteopathic Association
American Psychiatric Association
American Psychological Association
American Public Health Association
American Society of Addiction Medicine
AmerisourceBergen Corporation
Association for Behavioral Health and Wellness
Association of Persons Affected by Addiction (APAA)
Association of Prosecuting Attorneys
Association of Recovery Community Organizations
Association of Recovery Schools
Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials
Bangor Area Recovery Network, Inc.
Big Cities Health Coalition
California Consortium of Addiction Programs and Professionals
Capital Area Project Vox
Caron Treatment Centers
Center for Recovery and Wellness Resources
Center for Substance Abuse Research, University of Maryland
Chicago Recovering Communities Coalition (CRCC)
College on Problems of Drug Dependence

Communities for Recovery
Community Alliances for Drug-Free Youth
Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America
Community Oriented Correctional Health Services
Connecticut Certification Board
Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery (CCAR)
Council on Prevention and Education: Substances
DarJune Recovery Support Services & Café
DC Recovery Community Alliance
Delaware Certification Board
Detroit Recovery Project, Inc.
Dorchester Recovery Initiative
Drug Free America Foundation
Drug Free Schools Coalition
Easy Does It, Inc.
El Paso Alliance
Engaged Recovery Community Services
Entertainment Industries Council, Inc
Faces & Voices of Recovery
Facing Addiction
FAVOR Greenville
FAVOR Mississippi Recovery Advocacy Project
FAVOR Pee Dee
FAVOR Tri-County
FED UP Coalition to End the Opioid Epidemic
Fellowship Foundation Recovery Community Organization
Floridians for Recovery
Foundation for Recovery
Friends of Recovery - New York
Friends Research Institute, Inc.
Gem County Recovery Community Center
Georgia Council on Substance Abuse
Gerontological Society of America
Greater Macomb Project Vox
HOPE for New Hampshire Recovery
Illinois Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Professional Certification Association
Institute for Behavior and Health
International Certification & Reciprocity Consortium
International Nurses Society on Addictions
Jackson Area Recovery Community
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
Juneau Recovery Community

Latah Recovery Center
Legal Action Center
Life of Purpose Treatment
Lifehouse Recovery Connection
Long Island Recovery Association (LIRA)
Lost Dreams Awaken Center, Inc.
Lotus Peer Recovery/Sober Kerrville
Louisiana Association of Substance Abuse Counselors & Trainers, Inc.
Maine Alliance for Addiction Recovery
Major Cities Chiefs Association
Major County Sheriffs of America
Maryland Recovery Organization Connecting Communities (M-ROCC)
Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery (MOAR)
Message Carriers of Pennsylvania, Inc.
Mi-HOPE - Michigan Heroin & Opiate Prevention and Education
Michigan Recovery Voices
Minnesota Recovery Connection
Missouri Recovery Network
Mothers Against Drunk Driving
Moyer Foundation
National Alliance of State Drug Enforcement Agencies
National Association for Children of Alcoholics
National Association for Rural Mental Health
National Association of City and County Health Officials
National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists
National Association of Counties
National Association of County Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability Directors
National Association of Drug Court Professionals
National Association of Social Workers
National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors
National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse
National Council for Behavioral Health
National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence
National District Attorneys Association
National Families in Action
National Fusion Center Association
National HIDTA Directors Association
National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization
National Minority AIDS Council
National Narcotics Officers Association Coalition
National Safety Council
National Sheriffs' Association

Navigate Recovery
New Evangelical Partnership for the Common Good
New York Association of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Providers, Inc.
Northern Ohio Recovery Association (NORA)
Nurse Practitioner Healthcare Foundation
Oklahoma Citizen Advocates for Recovery & Treatment Association (OCARTA)
Oklahoma Drug and Alcohol Professional Counselor Association
P.E.E.R Wellness Center, Inc.
Partnership for Drug-Free Kids
PEER360 Recovery Alliance
Pennsylvania Certification Board
Pennsylvania Recovery Organization - Achieving Community Together - (PRO-ACT)
Pennsylvania Recovery Organizations Alliance (PRO-A)
People Advocating Recovery – PAR
Phoenix House
Phoenix Multisport Boston
Physicians for Responsible Opioid Prescribing
PLR Athens
Proove Biosciences
RASE Project
Recover Project/Western MA Training
Recover Wyoming
Recovery - Friendly Taos County
Recovery Allies Of West Michigan
Recovery Cafe
Recovery Communities of North Carolina
Recovery Community Of Durham
Recovery Consultants of Atlanta
Recovery Data Solutions
Recovery Idaho, Inc.
Recovery is Happening
RecoveryATX
RecoveryNC (Governors Institute on Substance Abuse)
Regroup
Rhode Island Certification Board
Rhode Island Communities for Addiction Recovery Efforts (RICAREs)
ROCovery Fitness
Rosenthal Center for Addiction Studies
Safe Kids Worldwide
SAM Action
Save Our Society from Drugs
Shatterproof
Smart Approaches to Marijuana
SMART Recovery

Solano Recovery Project
Spiritworks Foundation
Springs Recovery Connection
STEP Industries
Strengthening the Mid-Atlantic Region for Tomorrow (SMART)
Substance Abuse Librarians and Information Specialists
T.O.R.C.H Inc.
Tennessee Overdose Prevention
Texas Association of Addiction Professionals
The Addict's Mom
The Bridge Foundation
The DOOR - DeKalb Open Opportunity for Recovery
The Friends of NIDA
The McShin Foundation
The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse
Tia Hart Recovery Community Program
Treatment Alternatives for Safer Communities
Treatment Communities of America
Trilogy Recovery Community
Trust for America's Health
Utah Support Advocates for Recovery Awareness (USARA)
Verde Technologies
Vermont Recovery Network
Virginia Association of Recovery Residences
Virginia Certification Board
Voices of Hope for Cecil County
Voices of Recovery San Mateo County
WAI-IAM, Inc. and RISE Recovery Community
Washtenaw Recovery Advocacy Project (WRAP)
WestCare, Inc.
WholeLife Recovery Community/ Arizona Recovery Coalition
Wisconsin Recovery Community Organization (WIRCO)
Wisconsin Voices for Recovery
Young People in Recovery
Zoe's Story Fund

CC: The Honorable Donald J. Trump
The Honorable Michael Pence
The Honorable Jefferson B. Sessions III
The Honorable Tom Price