The Prevention and Public Health Fund at Work in Illinois

The Prevention and Public Health Fund (Fund), created in 2010, is the first federal funding source dedicated to public health and prevention and represents a unique opportunity to reduce long-term health costs. Seventy-five percent of all health care costs in our country are spent on the treatment of chronic diseases, many of which could be prevented.

In 2017, the Fund is investing nearly $1 billion in programs that will benefit every state and allow communities to move forward on proven, effective ways to keep Americans healthier and more productive. Over the next ten years (FY2018-27), the Fund will invest a total of $14 billion in cross-cutting prevention programs that have the potential to transform our public health system. In its first eight years, the Prevention Fund has invested almost $7 billion, the vast majority in resources to states, communities, and tribal and community organizations in support of community-based prevention, including tobacco use prevention, healthy eating and active living, as well as childhood immunizations and clinical prevention.

Illinois has received over $129 million through the Prevention Fund since 2010. This essential investment is already at work in Illinois, providing critical resources for prevention programs to combat the leading causes of death and disability. Some of the accomplishments supported by the Fund include:

**Reduce the leading causes of disease, disability and death**

**Reducing Tobacco Use:** Illinois received over $1.6 million from the Prevention Fund in FY16 for tobacco use prevention. During the first week of CDC airing its *Tips from Former Smokers* campaign, states saw astonishing spikes in the number of calls to 1-800-QUIT NOW. Nationwide, there was a 130 percent increase in calls, while Illinois saw a 465 percent increase in the first week alone. According to a March 2016 study published in *Preventing Chronic Disease*, the national ad campaign led an estimated 1.6 million smokers to attempt to quit smoking and helped more than 100,000 Americans quit smoking immediately.

**Diabetes, Heart Disease, and Obesity:** Illinois received $885,198 in FY16 under the State Public Health Actions to Prevent and Control Diabetes, Heart Disease, Obesity and Associated Risk Factors and Promote School Health (DNPAO) grant program. More than one in three Americans and nearly one in five children in this country is obese. These awards to state health departments allow four CDC programs- diabetes;
heart disease and stroke; nutrition, physical activity and obesity; and school health- to
work in a coordinated fashion to prevent chronic disease by addressing common risk
factors.

**Promote better detection and response to disease threats**

**Detection and Response Capacity:** The state of Illinois received over $1.3 million
through Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity grants in FY16 to prevent, detect,
and respond to disease outbreaks, including those caused by influenza and foodborne
pathogens. Illinois also received $80,252 in FY16 to prevent healthcare associated
infections.

**Strengthen the Public Health System**

**Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant:** Illinois received $3.6 million in
FY16 from the Preventive Health and Health Services Block grant, which allows states
to address their unique public health needs in innovative and locally defined ways. This
program gives grantees the flexibility to use funds to respond rapidly to emerging health
issues and to fill funding gaps in programs that deal with leading causes of death and
disability.

**Building Immunization Services:** The Illinois State Department of Public Health
received over $8.8 million in FY16 to improve access to vaccines, including through
the Section 317 Immunization Program, which provides a vaccine safety net to
uninsured, low-income adults. These funds help state and local public health
departments purchase vaccines for uninsured Americans, monitor the safety of
vaccines, and respond to disease outbreaks through investigations and rapidly
vaccinating at-risk unvaccinated populations. States have also received competitive
awards to modernize and enhance technology, including immunization information
systems (IIS), billing systems, and interoperability.

Hospital Promoting Breastfeeding: Illinois received $439,000 in FY16 through
Hospitals Promoting Breastfeeding grants. The program funds community initiatives
to support breastfeeding mothers and support hospitals in promoting breastfeeding.

1 Includes funds to date but amount does not include total awards for fiscal year 2017.