

## The Frontline Health Workers Coalition Supports the Dedicated Line Item for Health Workers in Lower Income Countries

## July 23, 2024

The Frontline Health Workers Coalition (FHWC), an alliance of more than 40 organizations dedicated to supporting health workers in lower- and middle-income countries, welcomed the inclusion of the **new, dedicated line item for "Global Health Workforce" of \$10 million at USAID in the fiscal year 2024 Federal budge**t. FHWC, along with its partners, worked hard to secure this initial investment in frontline health workers around the world. Many thanks to our Congressional champions.

Next year, it is imperative **to increase this amount to at least \$20 million** as requested by the Administration for Fiscal Year 2025. We strongly urge the Senate to include \$20 million aligning with the request made by the Administration.

We hope this funding will be used with precision to play a catalytic role in driving improvements in the global health workforce, global health security, primary health care, and pandemic preparedness.

The world faces a severe global health workforce shortage. The World Health Organization estimates, even with current progress, the world will still face a shortfall of 10 million health workers, including in the U.S., as we regularly recruit a significant percentage of our health workforce from the developing world. Supporting frontline health workers is key to achieving U.S. health goals at the local, community, national, and global level.

We are looking forward to working with USAID and partners to further strengthen direct support for health workers as they serve their communities around the world.

The <u>Frontline Health Workers Coalition</u> members believe that every community should have access to trained, paid, and supported health workers who are able to provide essential health services and respond to health threats. The Coalition is an alliance of more than 40 United States-based and international organizations working together to urge greater and more strategic US and multilateral investments in health workers in low- and middle-income countries as a cost-effective way to save lives and foster a healthier, safer, and more prosperous world.