

**Public Testimony of the Friends of the National Institute of Mental Health**

**Fiscal Year 2022 Appropriations for the National Institutes of Health and the National Institute of Mental Health**

**United States Senate Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies**

**June 24, 2021**

Chair Murray, Ranking Member Blunt, and Members of the Subcommittee:

I write on behalf of the Friends of NIMH, a newly formed coalition of more than 30 organizations representing scientists, physicians, health care providers, individuals, families, and communities. The members of the Friends of NIMH are dedicated to supporting the mission of the [National Institute of Mental Health](#) (NIMH) to transform the understanding of mental health and the treatment of mental illnesses through basic biomedical, behavioral, and clinical research, to best inform prevention, early intervention, recovery, and cures. We write to encourage you to provide robust funding for NIMH in FY 2022 so that the institute can build upon the significant achievements to advance the behavioral, biomedical, and social research mission and important initiatives to provide new insights and solutions to benefit your constituents. Our member organizations represent communities with interest across the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Individually and collectively, our members also belong to the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research, a coalition of over 330 patient and voluntary health groups, medical and scientific societies, academic and research organizations, and industry that support enhancing the federal investment in the behavioral and biomedical research conducted and supported by the NIH. Aligned with the Ad Hoc request, **we respectfully request that the subcommittee provide at least \$46.1 billion for the agency in Fiscal Year (FY) 2022**, \$3.2 billion above the final FY21 funding level.

Thank you for considering this request,

The Friends of NIMH Executive Committee:

Juliane Baron  
Federation of Associations in Behavioral  
and Brain Sciences

Pat Kobor  
American Psychological Association

Diana E. Clarke  
American Psychiatric Association

Theresa Nguyen  
Mental Health America

Brian Hepburn  
National Association of State Mental Health  
Program Directors

Anna Platt  
Research!America

Andrew Sperling  
National Alliance on Mental Illness