



*A Union of Professionals*

## **Impact of Education and Healthcare Cuts**

### **Eliminate after-school and summer programs**

- After-school and summer programs provide recreation, learning and a safe environment to kids who might otherwise be left unsupervised. They also enable working parents to keep their jobs and provide kids with access to programs that can help them excel academically, take part in sports and extracurricular activities, and learn social and team-building skills.
- Every \$1 invested in after-school programs saves \$9 by increasing kids' future earning potential, improving their school performance, and reducing crime and welfare costs.
- Regular participation in after-school programs and community learning centers has been shown to improve achievement in math and reading, school attendance, homework completion, class participation, classroom behavior and dropout rates.
- Teens who don't participate in after-school programs are nearly three times more likely to skip classes or use drugs, and are more likely to drink, smoke and engage in sexual activity.
- Many after-school programs also provide snacks or dinner. Millions of children would go hungry if summer programs were eliminated. Providing meals to students results in better attendance, less tardiness and fewer behavioral problems.
- According to a recent Quinnipiac poll, 83 percent of Americans oppose cutting funding for after-school and summer school programs.

### **Defund community schools**

- Half of all public school students live in poverty. Community schools provide wraparound services that meet students' physical, emotional and social needs—needs that become barriers to learning if left unmet.
- Students in high-quality community learning center programs have better achievement and school attendance, and fewer disciplinary incidents. Many of these community learning centers are in some of the highest-need districts in the nation.
- Nearly all 650 students at the Community Health Academy of the Heights, in New York City, are poor. CHAH helps meet their physical, emotional and social needs and offers a variety of health, food, social service and parental supports. It reduced the number of students reading at level 1, the lowest level, by 37 percent between 2013 and 2016.
- In McDowell County, W.Va., the seventh-poorest county in the country, the community schools program provides 900 children with a variety of learning and enrichment opportunities.

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The **American Federation of Teachers** is a union of 1.6 million professionals that champions fairness; democracy; economic opportunity; and high-quality public education, healthcare and public services for our students, their families and our communities. We are committed to advancing these principles through community engagement, organizing, collective bargaining and political activism, and especially through the work our members do.

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### **Increase class sizes and slash training programs for educators**

- The proposed Trump-DeVos budget slashes funding for class-size reduction and the training educators need to improve their skills.
- Reducing class sizes helps educators meet the individual needs of children. Studies have shown smaller classes boost academic performance and create better learning climates.
- Teachers rely on regular professional development to continue to hone their craft. Toledo, Ohio, could lose funds it uses to train teachers in an intensive reading program for students who are not reading proficiently by third grade—which research shows puts them at greatly increased risk of not graduating from high school. Classes that have implemented the program have shown a 50 percent increase in reading proficiency.
- Escambia County, Fla., could lose a peer mentoring and assistance program that pairs accomplished teachers with first-year and struggling teachers. In addition to improving teaching quality, the high level of support has been an effective recruiting tool, helping the district attract promising young educators.

### **Cut funding for career and technical education and eliminate programs for gifted and talented students, arts education, and native Hawaiian and Alaska education**

- Career and technical education would be cut by \$196 million. These programs help students develop the career skills they need to be productive adults.
- Other programs that the Trump-DeVos budget would eliminate include arts in education (\$27 million), Native Hawaiian and Alaskan education (\$65 million), gifted and talented education (\$12 million) and even Special Olympics (\$12 million).

### **Make it harder to afford college**

- Trump and DeVos propose cutting \$732 million from the federal program that provides college tuition assistance to low-income students, and want to raid \$3.9 billion from the Pell Grant program that has helped so many Americans afford a college education. The maximum Pell Grant award would remain flat at \$5,920 and would not be indexed to inflation.
- The budget proposal also eliminates a \$15 million program that provides child care for low-income parents in college, and cuts in half funding for the federal work-study program that helps students work their way through school.
- The Trump-DeVos budget ends loan forgiveness for those who choose to go into public service to help those with the greatest needs. The proposal might cut off those who have been working in public service for up to a decade with the expectation of loan forgiveness.
- The proposal also eliminates in-school subsidized loans and more than \$700 million in Perkins loans for disadvantaged students.

### **Invest in failed privatization and voucher strategies that hurt kids**

- The Trump-DeVos budget does invest in one area—expanding private school vouchers and other privatization schemes, even though the evidence is clear that these programs have not helped children and have, in fact, hurt them.
- The Louisiana voucher program has led to large declines in kids’ reading and math scores. A Fordham Institute study concluded students in Ohio’s voucher program did worse than children in traditional public schools. A new study on the D.C. voucher program showed a negative impact on academic achievement for students using vouchers.
- Private voucher schools take money away from neighborhood public schools, lack the same accountability that public schools have, fail to protect kids from discrimination, and increase segregation.
- The promise of our public schools is to create a pathway of opportunity for students and communities across America. The Trump-DeVos budget cuts promise only to block the path for students and families who depend on public education to find the way to a better future.

### **Trump’s Budget: More Broken Promises, More Failed Policies and More Bankrupt Families**

President Donald Trump’s budget slashes healthcare workforce development and training, Medicaid, health research and disease interventions, workplace safety and support for the working poor.

#### **Eliminates \$403 million from health professional and nurse workforce training programs**

- These programs make sure that communities have access to resources that will help them expand the physician and nursing workforce needed to meet patients’ needs.
- These programs are critical to making sure training programs are meeting community needs. Examples include funding for training in the dental health professions and, significantly, funding to recruit minority students into nursing and health professions.
- This is a real issue in minority communities where there are cultural barriers to care. These programs bring diversity to the workforce and provide a path to financial stability for individuals.
- Half the nursing workforce is over the age of 55. It is projected that there will be a nursing shortage within 10 years and that by 2022, there will be 1 million job openings for nurses. This is not the time to give short shrift to training and education. There is a shortage of nursing instructors—and waitlists in nursing programs in areas where there is need.

#### **Cuts Medicaid by \$600 billion in addition to the \$840 billion cut by the American Health Care Act. Cuts the Children’s Health Insurance Program by \$3.4 billion (20 percent) and reduces eligibility levels**

- The budget proposal would turn Medicaid into a block grant or per capita cap, and allow states to impose work requirements for certain Medicaid beneficiaries.
- One in 10 veterans is on Medicaid.
- **In addition, Medicaid cuts would affect nearly 70 million Americans, including children, seniors and people with disabilities.**
- Medicaid and the closely related Children’s Health Insurance Program together cover more than one in three American children (34 million).
- Each year, Medicaid provides at least \$4 billion across the country to support school-based healthcare services like school nurses, speech pathology, occupational therapy and psychology—services that research shows are linked to better education outcomes for students.
- Nearly 10 million seniors and Americans with disabilities who are eligible for Medicare also qualify for Medicaid. That is, 14 percent of Medicare beneficiaries are “dual eligible.”

- In 2013, half of all Medicare beneficiaries had annual incomes below \$23,500. Medicaid helps these people pay their Medicare premiums and out-of-pocket costs to ensure they have access to the care they need.

#### **Cuts the National Institutes of Health budget by \$5 billion or 20 percent**

- Eliminates the Fogarty International Center, which conducts global health research, an important part of disease surveillance and containment outside our borders.
- AFT conducted training and support during the Ebola outbreak, for example, which helped to slow the spread of disease and keep it away from our borders.

#### **Cuts the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention budget by \$1.3 billion**

- The cuts affect vaccination programs; HIV/AIDs/disease prevention and research into birth defects and developmental disabilities.
- The budget proposes a 17 percent cut to the CDC's sexually transmitted disease and tuberculosis prevention efforts. Immunization and influenza preparation funding would fall by 10 percent. Chronic disease prevention and health promotion would be cut by 19 percent.

#### **Cuts to Women's Health Services**

- Budget excludes Planned Parenthood from reimbursement for health services.

#### **Substance Abuse**

- The proposed budget targets the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration with nearly \$400 million in cuts, while keeping funding flat for many initiatives aimed at fighting the opioid epidemic.