

SOCIETY of BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE

Better Health Through Behavior Change

PROTECT MISSISSIPPI

PROTECT NIH FUNDING

National Institutes of Health (NIH) research saves lives. It helps prevent and treat cancer, obesity, heart disease, diabetes, and other chronic diseases. Half of U.S. adults suffer from one or more chronic diseases.

NIH research helps the economy. Every \$1 in NIH funding generates about \$2.21 in local economic growth. NIHsupported research adds \$69 billion to our annual GDP and supports 7 million jobs.

But funding for NIH research is threatened. Inflation and sequestration have cost the NIH more than \$6 billion in purchasing power since 2004. Less funding for research means:

- Slowdowns in developing new cancer drugs and finding effective strategies for preventing chronic diseases.
- The United States could lose its position as a world leader in science and technology. Scientific competitors like China are currently increasing their investments in research.
- Fewer jobs in every state in the nation and the loss of promising researchers to other career paths.

NIH FUNDING BENEFITS MISSISSIPPI

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) pumps millions of dollars into Mississippi's economy and creates necessary medical research jobs.

Mississippi received \$42 million NIH dollars in 2017, supporting 82 research projects.

This year, Society of Behavioral Medicine members received NIH funding for:

- A study assessing the behavioral and
- genetic characteristics of chronic pain patients who become addicted to opioids. Results could help combat the nation's opioid epidemic by allowing doctors to predict which patients are at risk for opioid addiction.
- Research on the effectiveness of yoga in reducing insomnia among cancer survivors. The majority of cancer survivors, up to 90%, report some form of sleep problems posttreatment often leading to insomnia and diminished quality of life, and, when severe, increased morbidity and mortality.
- Development of a program to address post-smoking cessation weight gain. Quitting smoking provides numerous health benefits, but the weight gain that often goes hand in hand can reduce those benefits, and this new research seeks to determine whether smoking cessation programs can be effectively combined with weight-maintenance or even weight-loss interventions.

Make NIH funding a national priority. Let's move forward—not backward.

The Society of Behavioral Medicine is a 2,400-member organization of scientific researchers, clinicians, and educators. They study interactions among behavior, biology, and the environment, and translate findings into interventions that improve the health and well-being of individuals, families, and communities.

Society of Behavioral Medicine • 555 East Wells Street, Suite 1100 • Milwaukee, WI 53202 • www.sbm.org



PROTECT MISSISSIPPI

PROTECT PREVENTION FUNDING

The health care system usually treats people after they become sick. More, however, can be done to *prevent* disease onset.

The nonpartisan Society of Behavioral Medicine and National Prevention Council are shifting the focus to prevention. The council's National Prevention Strategy seeks to "improve the health and quality of life for individuals, families, and communities by moving the nation from a focus on sickness and disease to one based on prevention and wellness." 86% of America's health care dollars are spent treating preventable chronic conditions yet only 3% of health care dollars go toward prevention.

We need more than a strategy. Prevention funding, like the U.S. Prevention and Public Health Fund, must be protected and increased. The public agrees—76% of Americans support increased funding for prevention programs.



The Prevention Fund supports services and programs that reduce tobacco use, increase physical activity, and improve nutrition, sparing millions of Americans the suffering and loss of life associated with obesity, diabetes, heart disease, cancer, and other preventable diseases. But more must be done—such preventable diseases continue to cause 70% of U.S. deaths and cost \$1.3 trillion in treatment costs and lost productivity every year. Lives—and dollars—can be saved through prevention.

MISSISSIPPI NEEDS PREVENTION

Many Mississippi adults suffer from preventable chronic conditions:

- 35% are obese.
- 16,000 get diagnosed with cancer annually.
- 15% have diabetes.
- 42% have high blood pressure.

The U.S. Prevention Fund is helping!

Statewide the fund is improving access to vaccines, helping smokers quit, and ensuring more women get breast and cervical cancer screenings. Local communities are benefiting too.

• Mississippi received over \$480,000 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-third of adults in Mississippi are obese; these awards to state health departments allow CDC programs addressing diabetes, heart disease and stroke, nutrition, and physical activity and obesity to work in a coordinated fashion to prevent chronic disease.