

EDC ON THE HILL

2021

April Newsletter



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Eating Disorders Coalition Capitol Hill 2021 Virtual Advocacy Day – Day of Action, Thursday, May 6

Eating Disorders Coalition Capitol Hill 2021 Virtual Advocacy Day is taking place on May 6. This year, we will continue our work in pushing Congress to support the Nutrition CARE Act. If you were unable to register for the advocacy day, you can still help advocate! See [here](#) for our social media toolkit, which you can use to encourage your network to urge their Members of Congress to support the Nutrition CARE Act through our Phone2Action system. **Please only share this content on Thursday, May 6 for maximum impact.**



Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies (LHHS) Fiscal Year 2022 Appropriations Bill Letter

Representatives Ted Deutch (D-FL), Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA), Paul Tonko (D-NY), and Abigail Spanberger (D-VA) led a letter signed by over 50 Members of Congress to the U.S. House of Representatives LHHS Appropriations Subcommittee in support of increased research funding for eating disorders, primary care training in the early identification of eating disorders, public health surveillance of eating disorders and disordered eating behaviors, and the formation of an eating disorders taskforce within the National Institutes of Health. Read the full letter [here](#).

Open Letter on Anti-Trans Medical Ban

The EDC is proud to support an open letter written by the National Center for Transgender Equality (NCTE) and GLMA Health Professionals Advancing LGBTQ Equality, opposing the several anti-transgender medical bans put forth in 20 different states. We encourage our EDC members and community to support the letter as it is open to anyone who is providing health services. You can read the letter and sign [here](#).

EDC Statement on Passage of the American Rescue Plan

President Joe Biden recently signed into law the American Rescue Plan (ARP) ([P.L. 117-2](#)), a \$1.9 trillion stimulus package aimed at addressing the continual impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. This legislative package contains a number of funding provisions related directly to mitigating the pandemic itself, along with provisions related to expansions in health coverage and funding for mental health programs. Read the full statement [here](#).

EDC/REDC Letter to Department of Defense on Eating Disorders in the Military

The EDC, in conjunction with the REDC Consortium, submitted a letter to the Department of Defense and Defense Health Agency, urging them to take action on specific issues to better

identify, treat, and rehabilitate servicemembers and their family members affected by eating disorders. Read the full letter [here](#).

EDC Letters of Support

Addressing the Shortages of School Mental Health and Other Specialized Instructional Support Personnel in FY2022

The EDC signed on to a letter led by the National Association of School Psychologists to House LHHS Appropriations Subcommittee and Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions leadership, encouraging them to help address the severe shortages of school-based mental health professionals in our nation's schools. Read the letter [here](#).

CONNECT for Health Act Reintroduced in the U.S. Senate

The EDC has endorsed the CONNECT for Health Act led by Senators Brian Schatz (D-HI) and Roger Wicker (R-MS) and supported by over 50 bipartisan Senators. The legislation is considered the most comprehensive bill on telehealth in Congress and would greatly expand access to mental health and substance use disorder treatment, including eating disorders. More information on the bill, including the list of organizations in support of the bill can be found [here](#).

Eating Disorders Personal Story Collection

The Eating Disorders Coalition continues to collect stories from our advocates on their experiences as military members, veterans, and their families who are/were affected by eating disorders in order to inform our advocacy efforts on Capitol Hill and develop a strong grassroots network of advocates across the U.S.

We are also collecting personal stories and advocacy interest from individuals on Medicare including persons aged 65 years of age and older and persons experiencing disabilities, and non-Medicare recipients who have had issues gaining insurance coverage for Nutrition Counseling (i.e. dietitian services) for their eating disorder.

If you have personal experiences with any of these issues, please fill out this [survey](#) for military and this [survey](#) for Medicare, disability, and/or Nutrition Counseling coverage.

EDC Action Alerts

The Eating Disorders Coalition continues to engage our community through Action Alerts via email and text message. We need your voice to contact elected officials to further important eating disorder legislative priorities. Would you like to be notified about Action Alerts via our new text message advocacy system in the future? Sign up through this [link](#).

Thank you to our members who support EDC's successful policy efforts!

Champions Circle

- REDC Consortium

Executive Circle

- Clementine
- Eating Recovery Center
- The Emily Program
- Monte Nido
- Oliver-Pyatt Centers
- Veritas Collaborative
- WithAll
- SunCloud Health

Policy Circle

- Academy for Eating Disorders
- Be Real USA
- National Eating Disorders Association (NEDA)
- The Renfrew Center

Leadership Circle

- Alliance for Eating Disorders Awareness
- Bannister Consultancy
- The Donahue Foundation
- Gail R. Schoenbach FREED Foundation
- International Association of Eating Disorders Professionals Foundation (iaedp)
- Montecatini

Support Circle

- Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (AND)
- Alsana: Eating Disorders Treatment and Recovery Centers
- Cambridge Eating Disorder Center
- Center for Discovery
- Eating Disorders Hope
- Farrington Specialty Counseling
- Multi-Service Eating Disorders Association
- Park Nicollet Melrose Center
- Rosewood Centers for Eating Disorders
- Strategic Training Initiative for the Prevention of Eating Disorders (STRIPED)
- Stay Strong Virginia

Hope Circle

- Eating Disorder Coalition of Iowa (EDCI)
- International Federation of Eating Disorders Dietitians (IFEDD)
- Moonshadow's Spirit
- Project HEAL
- The National Association of Anorexia Nervosa and Associated Disorders (ANAD)
- Rogers Behavioral Health
- Wrobel & Smith, PLLP

Advocacy Circle

- Center for Change
- Laureate Eating Disorders Program
- Walden Behavioral Care

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