



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF  
**CHRONIC DISEASE DIRECTORS**  
Promoting Health. Preventing Disease.

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **NACDD Commends Prevention Investments in Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act**

April 1, 2010 (Atlanta, GA) – The National Association of Chronic Disease Directors (NACDD) released a position paper today on the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, specifically focusing on investment opportunities to address chronic disease prevention.

“The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act is a groundbreaking move forward in provision of access to and quality of care, and Title IV of the bill – ‘Prevention of Chronic Disease and Improving Public Health’ – provides a new investment opportunity to address our nation’s pressing chronic disease issues,” said John Robitscher, NACDD Executive Director.

“NACDD recommends the bulk of Title IV for 2010 (\$500 million this year) be invested through CDC’s National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion in State and Territorial health agencies to provide core capacity to address primary and secondary prevention of chronic diseases across the lifespan.”

The position paper notes that these agencies have a track record of investing, and supporting prevention, in geographically-diverse communities of all sizes. According to the paper, an investment in primary and secondary prevention needs to equip every state with a cadre of evidenced-based programs to employ a range of chronic disease risk factors and prevention strategies, including:

- Obesity Prevention and Control (including both nutrition and physical activity)
- Tobacco Prevention and Control
- Diabetes Prevention and Control (including prevention of kidney disease)
- Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention
- Early Detection of Cancer and Cancer Survivorship Services
- Healthy Community Programs (ACHIEVE, REACH, and others)
- Arthritis Prevention and Control
- School Health and Oral Health Programs
- Healthy Aging - including Brain Health

“America is on the precipice of great opportunity with this historic investment in health care reform,” said Robitscher. “We now need to move forward with a meaningful investment in state-based prevention, building our capacity to support critical programs in every state and community across America.”

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*About the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors (NACDD)*

The National Association of Chronic Disease Directors (NACDD) is a national public health association for chronic disease program directors of each state and U.S. territory. The NACDD works to reduce the impact of chronic diseases on the American population by advocating for preventative policies and programs, encouraging sharing of knowledge and developing partnerships for health promotion. ([www.chronicdisease.org](http://www.chronicdisease.org)).