



**Division of Adolescent and School Health
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention
FY 2022 Labor HHS Appropriations Bill**

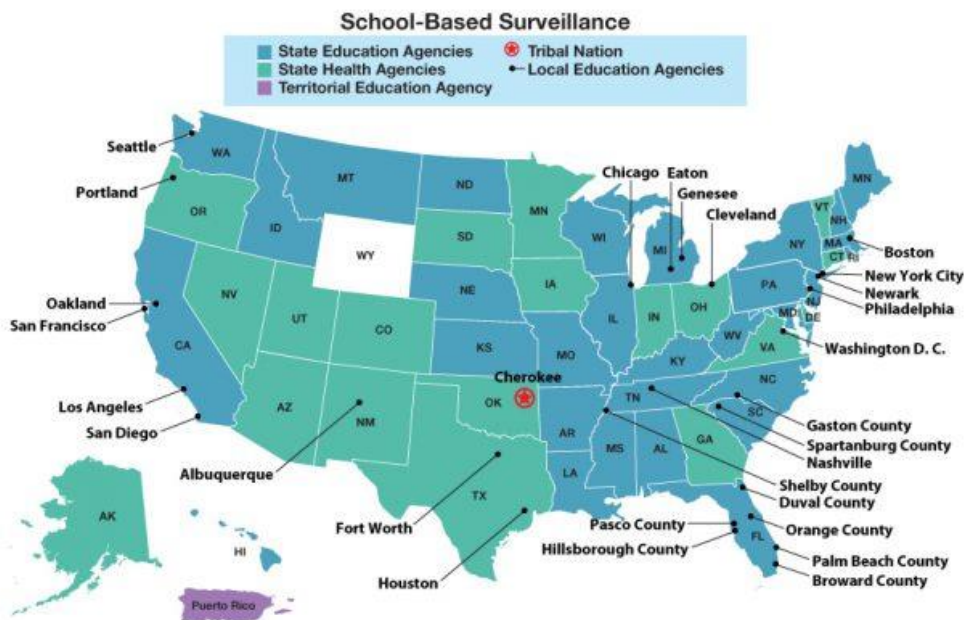
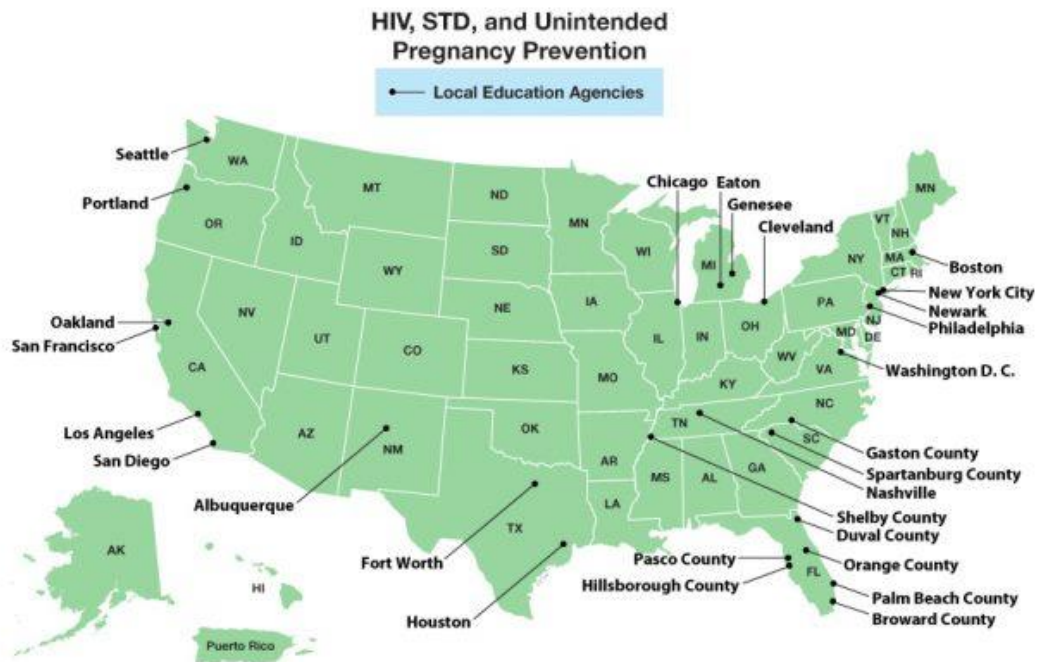
	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022 TFAH
Division of Adolescent and School Health (DASH)	\$33,081,000	\$33,081,000	\$34,081,000	\$100,000,000

Background: The CDC’s Division of Adolescent and School Health (DASH) works to promote environments where youth can gain fundamental health knowledge and skills, establish healthy behaviors for a lifetime, connect to health services, and avoid becoming pregnant or infected with HIV or STDs. DASH funding strengthens quality health education, increases access to and use of key health services and promotes safe and supportive school environments in 49 states and 28 local education agencies (LEAs). DASH is a unique program in that it collects data that translates directly into action and supports a network of leaders in primary prevention by funding education agencies directly. Examples of programs supported by DASH include mentoring programs, service-learning opportunities, and student-led inclusive groups.

Impact: The DASH program promotes health and well-being of adolescents by implementing evidence-based programs and policies in schools for less than \$10 per student. Through enhancing protective factors and reducing risk behaviors, this program helps children and adolescents avoid multiple behaviors that place them at risk for adverse health and educational outcomes. DASH currently provides resources to 49 states for school-based surveillance and 28 local education agencies (LEAs) to implement school-based programs. CDC-funded districts implemented school connectedness strategies, such as family/community mentoring programs, that have led to declines in high-risk substance use, violence victimization, suicidal ideation and risky sexual behavior. An increase to \$100 million would enable DASH to:

- **Direct funding to 100 of the largest local education agencies, 50 states and 7 territories** to implement school-based programs and practices designed to reduce and prevent HIV, STD, and pregnancy among adolescents as well as establish safe and supportive environments for students. DASH’s programs have been proven to reduce sexual risk behaviors, high-risk substance use, violence victimization and suicide.
- **Funding to 50 States, 7 territories, and 100 Local Education Agencies for surveillance**, which supports DASH’s three-school-based surveillance systems that provide educators with information they can translate into programs, policies, and practices that and improve students’ health and well-being.

- **Support to national organizations**, to help education agencies with training, technical assistance, and resource development to increase the impact of local programs.



Recommendation: TFAH urges the Committee to provide \$100 million increase in FY22 to expand the work of DASH in promoting health and well-being of adolescents through schools. Currently DASH programs reach approximately 2 million of the 26 million middle and high school students. This funding would allow DASH to expand their work to roughly 20% of all students and equip more children and adolescents with protective factors that will enable them to become healthy adults.