

Senator Dan Sullivan (R-AK) 302 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Senator Chris Murphy (D-CT) 136 Hart Senate Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20510

RE: S. 509 – Leveraging Integrating Networks in Communities (LINC) to Address Social Needs Act of 2021

Dear Senators Sullivan and Murphy,

The National Alliance to impact the Social Determinants of Health (NASDOH) writes to express support for your bill <u>S. 509</u>, the "Leveraging Integrating Networks in Communities (LINC) to Address Social Needs Act of 2021", which would establish partnerships to better coordinate health care and social services.

The National Alliance to impact the Social Determinants of Health (NASDOH) is a group of stakeholders working to systematically and pragmatically build a common understanding of the importance of addressing social needs as part of an overall approach to health improvement and economic vitality of families and communities. The Alliance brings together health care, public health and social services expertise, local community experience, community-convening competence, business and financial insight, technology innovation, data and analytics competencies, and policy and advocacy acumen to assess and address current regulatory frameworks, funding environments and opportunities, and practical challenges to implementing and sustaining social determinants of health efforts. We seek to make a material improvement in the health of individuals and communities and, through multi-sector partnerships within the national system of health, to advance holistic, value-based, person-centered health care that can successfully impact the social determinants of health.

NASDOH supports efforts improve care coordination across the health care and social services sector and particularly supports your legislative proposal to leverage local expertise and technology to overcome challenges in helping to connect people to food, housing, child development, job training, and transportation supports and services. We see strong benefit to a statewide or regional interoperable approach to usage of technology platforms, as it is challenging and burdensome for social service providers to work with multiple systems and platforms simultaneously. Beyond the ability to ease referrals through technology-enabled solutions, we also recognize the other strains on social service providers and support sustained funding for their work to address adverse social determinants of health.

We appreciate your focus on care coordination and social needs and look forward to future legislative action on this topic from you and other members of Congress. For more information on NASDOH and our members, please visit our website at www.nasdoh.org or contact Sara Singleton at Sara.Singleton@leavittpartners.com

Sincerely,

Sara Singleton
Principal, Leavitt Partners and Advisor to NASDOH