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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **President's 2021 Budget Proposes Significant Cuts to Health Care**

**Statement by Marc M. Boutin, JD  
Chief Executive Officer**

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The President's 2021 budget, released today, aims to greatly slash spending on health programs on which people with chronic diseases and disabilities rely. Despite a deal struck with Congress only last summer, the budget proposes a nine percent cut in funding for the Department of Health and Human Services. Notably, it dramatically decreases spending on Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Plan (CHIP), vital safety-net programs for our nation's most vulnerable.

The President's budget is the first step in a long process before final funding is completed. While Congress can, and often does, ignore Presidential budget requests, they often serve as key indicators of an administration's priorities. The NHC will work with Congress ensure the President's harmful budget cuts do not see the light of day.

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*Founded in 1920, the National Health Council (NHC) brings diverse organizations together to forge consensus and drive patient-centered health policy. The NHC provides a united voice for the more than 160 million people with chronic diseases and disabilities and their family caregivers. Made up of more than 140 national health-related organizations and businesses, the NHC's core membership includes the nation's leading patient advocacy organizations, which control its governance and policy-making process. Other members include health-related associations and nonprofit organizations including the provider, research, and family caregiver communities; and businesses representing biopharmaceutical, device, diagnostic, generic, and payer organizations. Learn more at: <http://www.nationalhealthcouncil.org>*