

## **California is losing federal grant funds that support coordinated school health in our schools and communities.**

For the past seven years, the California Department of Education and Department of Health Services have received a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to promote and support coordinated school health in California. This has been accomplished through the leadership of School Health Connections in both departments, who have effectively promoted each of the eight components of coordinated school health—as well as collaboration among the components. We have just learned that with current federal funding levels, California will no longer be receiving CDC grant funds for coordinated school health—a significant loss for California’s children and youth.

### **What can be done?**

- **If you have a personal connection to a member of Congress, we urge you to make a personal contact.** See the accompanying list of names and contact information for key members of Congress.
- Contact members of the Senate and House Appropriations Committees, particularly Republican members and/or members of the subcommittees on Health/Human Services. In addition, contact your own Congressional representatives. See the accompanying list of names and contact information for key members of Congress.
- For written contacts, use Email or faxes as the preferred method; due to heightened security measures, delivery of mailed correspondence is very slow.

### **What is the message?**

- **Urge Congress to support an increase in the 2004 federal budget for CDC’s Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Functional Table, School Health line item.** An **increase of at least \$10 million** will enable California to resume its work in this area. An increase of \$30 million would allow funding of even more states.

The other documents on this Web site provide you with a fact sheet that can be used for speaking points or Email messages, templates you can use, and contact information for members of Congress. **We urge you to personalize your letter or message and highlight your personal success stories.** Thank you for your support and commitment to the health of our children, youth, and families.