

The challenge posed by VBDs only continues to grow with time, with Lyme disease continuing to spread into places it has not previously been detected, a growing burden from alpha-gal syndrome, and emerging diseases like Heartland virus and Bourbon virus being detected in the mid-Atlantic region in addition to the Midwest and South. Fortunately, the CDC runs critical programs to help address these challenges at the regional, state, and local levels.

CDC Regional Centers of Excellence (COE) and Training and Evaluation Centers (TEC) in Vector-Borne Diseases: In 2022, four COEs were reauthorized following a competition. These centers, covering *New England, the Southeast, the Midwest, and the Southwest*, play a unique and critical role in the coordination between academic institutions and state and local health departments to accelerate dissemination of research findings and information into the communities

outbreaks of all kinds, including vector-borne diseases, and we thank you for your support. The VBDN requests \$340 million in FY 2025 for the Division of Vector-Borne Diseases (DVBD) Public Health Data Modernization to carry out this important function.

In total, the VBDN request for FY 2025 is \$114.603 million for the Division of Vector-Borne Diseases (DVBD). Included within this is a request for an increase of \$10.0 million in ELC funding for VectorSurv, as well as \$14 million more for VBD ELC support to fulfill the vision of the *Kay Hagan Tick Act*, for a total of \$87.603 million for the VBD line, and \$27.0 million for Lyme disease. This would help support the collaborative efforts of more than a dozen federal agencies efforts to fulfill the vision laid out in the National Strategy on VBD and help meet the needs of states across the U.S.

The CDC agency has the resources it needs to protect Americans from serious threats like VBD. On behalf of our coalition of stakeholders invested in the mission to reduce the ongoing and emerging threats posed by ticks, mosquitoes, and other arthropod vectors, we thank you for your commitment to this critical issue.

Sincerely,

American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges
American Mosquito Control Assn

VectorED Network Training and Evaluation Center for Vector-borne Diseases