

# JOIN THE CONGRESSIONAL CONGENITAL HEART CAUCUS



Congenital heart disease (CHD) is the most common birth defect, affecting 1 in 100 babies and 1.5 million adults living with CHD in the U.S. Thanks to advances in care, more children with CHD are surviving into adulthood, but many still face repeated surgeries, lifelong specialist care, high costs, and gaps in coverage and care.

## How Congress Can Help

Members of the bipartisan Congressional Congenital Heart Caucus can support policies that strengthen CHD research, improve public health data, advance innovation, protect coverage, and expand access to lifelong specialty care for CHD patients:

- ✓ **Invest in CHD research through the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Heart Lung & Blood Institute (NHLBI)**  
Strengthen federal research funding to better understand CHD, improve outcomes, support innovation, and address lifelong needs from infancy through adulthood.
- ✓ **Strengthen surveillance and public health data**  
Improve national data collection and surveillance efforts so policymakers, researchers, and clinicians can better understand how many people are living with CHD, where gaps exist, and what resources are needed.
- ✓ **Advance innovation and access for CHD devices and technologies**  
Support policies that improve the review, coverage, and reimbursement processes for pediatric, rare disease, and small-market devices and ensure that promising technologies can reach children and adults with CHD in a timely and predictable way.
- ✓ **Ensure comprehensive, continuous coverage for CHD patients**  
Protect and strengthen coverage pathways that enable medically complex children and adults to access needed care without disruption.
- ✓ **Strengthen access to CHD specialty, multidisciplinary care, and address workforce shortages**  
Grow and sustain the CHD workforce – particularly adult CHD specialists and multidisciplinary care teams – so patients can access specialized care for life.

**To learn more or join the Congressional Congenital Heart Caucus, please reach out to Huntley Campbell ([Huntley.Campbell@mail.house.gov](mailto:Huntley.Campbell@mail.house.gov)) on Caucus Chair Rep. Gus Bilirakis's team.**