



April 22, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Republican Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader McCarthy, Leader McConnell, and Leader Schumer:

As members and partners of InterAction, the largest alliance of U.S.-based NGOs that implement and advocate for U.S. humanitarian, health, development, and democracy programs, we are grateful for your efforts to include funding for the international response to COVID-19 in P.L.116-123 and P.L.116-136. This funding has permitted the Department of State and USAID to begin responding to this unprecedented global pandemic. However, as the virus spreads throughout countries with fragile health systems, weak governance, crumbling educational systems, and struggling economies, more aggressive U.S. leadership is required to address the pandemic's varied impacts and protect against a future resurgence. Our efforts to defeat this virus abroad will protect and save lives both in developing countries and here at home.

As Congress considers the next legislative package to respond to COVID-19, we urge you to provide no less than \$12 billion for the international response, including significant resources for emergency global health, flexible humanitarian assistance and urgent economic relief, development of and access to new vaccines, diagnostics, and treatments for low resource settings and support for operations of the State Department, USAID, and implementing partners on the frontlines of the United States' COVID-19 response worldwide.

At least \$12 billion is critical to ensuring the most vulnerable communities can prevent, respond to, and mitigate impacts from this devastating pandemic. From our experience in prior epidemics, we know firsthand how this virus will devastate health systems. We also understand how strong investments in global health and global health security enable protection and capacity for frontline health workers, support vital public health education, and help overwhelmed health facilities flatten the curve, while continuing to provide other critical, life-saving health services.

In addition, we know this virus is impacting U.S. investments and progress made on a wide range of issues, including nutrition and food security, WASH, democracy and governance, education, refugee protection and disproportionate impacts on vulnerable populations such as women and girls and people with disabilities. Addressing the immediate health impacts of this crisis, as well as supporting programs to alleviate additional impacts that could prove even more long-lasting and devastating, will require significant resources that are needed urgently.



To ensure a truly global response, the United States must complement bilateral investments with support for lifesaving international organizations, including the World Health Organization. At this point in the pandemic, we need the expertise and support of all partners who are responding to COVID-19 in developing countries. Finally, it is critically important to support the broader charitable nonprofit sector's requests for our response to COVID-19, including expanding nonprofit access to grants and credit and increasing the above-the-line deduction for charitable contributions.

This is the moment to demonstrate American generosity and moral leadership. We appreciate your recognition that a comprehensive effort to address this pandemic must include funding to address the outbreak in at-risk countries and strongly urge you to provide no less than \$12 billion to fight the pandemic overseas in the next response package. We stand ready to provide you with any additional information you may require.

Sincerely,

1,000 Days	Congressional Hunger Center
Action Against Hunger	Dining for Women
ADRA International	Doctors of the World/Medecins du Monde
Alliance for Peacebuilding	Embrace Relief Foundation
AME-SADA, INC.	Episcopal Relief & Development
Amerf Health Africa	Farm Journal Foundation
American Jewish World Service	Feed the Children
American Relief Agency for the Horn of Africa (ARAHA)	Food for the Hungry
Americares	Freedom House
Association of Volunteers in International Service, USA	Giving Children Hope
Basic Education Coalition	Global Citizen
Bethany Christian Services	Global Communities
BRAC USA	Global Health Council
Bread for the World	Global Water 2020
Brother's Brother Foundation	GOAL
Build A Movement 2020	Habitat for Humanity International
Cadasta Foundation	Headwaters Relief Organization
CARE USA	Healey International Relief Foundation
CHANGE (Center for Health and Gender Equity)	Heart to Heart International
Child Aid	Heartland Alliance International
ChildFund International	Heifer International
Church World Service	Helen Keller International
Concern Worldwide	HelpAge USA
	Helping Hand for Relief and Development
	HIAS



Humentum
IMA World Health- Lutheran World Relief
INMED Partnerships for Children
InterAction
International Center for Not-for-Profit Law
International Eye Foundation
International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES)
International Medical Corps
International Rescue Committee
International Youth Foundation
Internews
IntraHealth International
IREX
Islamic Relief USA
Jesuit Refugee Service/USA
MedGlobal
Mennonite Central Committee, U.S Washington Office
Mercy Corps
Mercy Without Limits
Mercy-USA for Aid and Development
Mobility International USA (MIUSA)
National Cooperative Business Association
CLUSA International
Norwegian Refugee Council USA
ONE Campaign
Operation USA
Oxfam America
Pan American Development Foundation
PATH
PCI, a Global Communities Partner
Physicians for Peace
Plan International USA
Planet Aid
Plant With Purpose
Project HOPE
Pure Hands
Refugees International
Relief International
ReSurge International
RTI International
Save the Children
Solar Cookers International
Solidarity Center
SPOON
Street Business School
The Hunger Project
The United Methodist Church - General Board of Church and Society
Trickle Up
U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants
UNICEF USA
United Mission for Relief and Development (UMR)
Water for South Sudan, Inc.
Women's Refugee Commission
World Connect
World Hope International
World Learning
World Vision