

Nation's Charitable Nonprofits Urge Congress to Move Frontline Responders to the Front of the Line for COVID-19 Relief

April 20--Listening to debate and deliberations from Capitol Hill this past week, we are concerned that the urgent needs of nonprofit organizations are not being addressed. Will charities be largely left out of the current relief package, too?

Since the beginning of the novel coronavirus pandemic, the nation's nonprofits have stepped up to serve their communities in countless ways — serving meals to those who lack food, providing childcare for health care and other essential workers, overseeing children in foster care, and checking in on vulnerable individuals, just to name a few. Many other nonprofits will play critical roles in the economic recovery following the pandemic.

With a workforce of 12.3 million, including hundreds of thousands of essential frontline responders, the nation's nonprofits are mission-focused on making communities stronger. In the toughest times, we do the toughest work, and we are in dire need of support. However, many nonprofits have not been able to access the relief provided in the previous stimulus packages. This is especially true of charitable nonprofits with more than 500 employees who have the scale to serve a greater number of people. At the same time, large numbers of charities with fewer than 500 employees have been effectively shut out of the Paycheck Protection Program.

Many charitable organizations are struggling to make ends meet due to declines in giving and the forced closures of other entities that contribute to their revenue streams. With so many nonprofits dependent on individual giving, the economic impact of the pandemic is driving donations down when demand is at an all-time high. If these essential organizations close their doors, many people in communities across the country will have nowhere else to turn for vital services.

It's time for these essential frontline responders to be put at the front of the line to access stimulus relief. As Congress is on the verge of acting to infuse the Paycheck Protection Program with additional funds and implement additional vehicles for economic relief, the nation's charitable nonprofits strongly urge congressional leaders to ensure that nonprofits, including those with more than 500 employees, have dedicated access to additional dollars so they can continue to see their communities through this pandemic and beyond.

Alliance for Strong Families and Communities
American Cancer Society Cancer Action
Network
Americans for the Arts
American Heart Association
Covenant House International
Ducks Unlimited
Girls Inc.
Girl Scouts of the USA
Goodwill Industries International
Habitat for Humanity International

The Jewish Federations of North America
Lutheran Services in America
Mental Health America
National Council of Nonprofits
Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of
America
United Way Worldwide
Welcoming America
YMCA of the USA
YWCA USA

Media Contacts

Alliance for Strong Families and Communities

Media Contact: Jennifer Devlin | (703) 876-1714

American Cancer Society and the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network

Media Contact: Allison Miller | (202) 585-3241

American Heart Association

Media Contact: Suniti Sarah Bal | (916) 390-1860

Americans for the Arts

Media Contact: Inga Vitols | (202) 371-2830

Covenant House International

Media Contact: Tom Manning | 212-727-4920

Girls Inc.

Media Contact: Tieler Giles | (404) 819-6405

Girl Scouts of the USA

Media Contact: Mike Lopes | (212) 852-8625

Goodwill Industries International

Media Contact: Lauren Lawson-Zilai | (240) 333-5266

Habitat for Humanity International

Media Contact: Bryan Thomas | (404) 908-5131

The Jewish Federations of North America

Media Contact: Rebecca Dinar | (305) 710-5361

Lutheran Services in America

Media Contact: Jen Beltz | (617) 780-0821

Mental Health America

Media Contact: Erin Wallace | 571-319-9594

National Council of Nonprofits

Media Contact: Rick Cohen | (202) 962-0322, ext. 118

United Way Worldwide

Media Contact: Southerlyn Reisig | (703) 836-7100, ext. 321

Welcoming America

Media Contact: Lola Pak | 404-271-5680

YMCA of the USA

Media Contact: Kelly Kennai | (202) 365-0192

YWCA USA

Media Contact: Courtney Holsworth | (989) 572-8162