

From the National Council of Nonprofits:

Action Item: Please send the National Council of Nonprofits's message below to each member of your congressional delegation with a brief note such as, "this is extremely important – we need your support."

I'm sending the message below that was sent to all offices on Capitol Hill explaining this [urgent letter calling on Congress to include the charitable sector in any COVID-19 Relief and Economic Stimulus Package](#). The letter was signed by 50 leading national charitable organizations (within three hours this morning).

Among other things, the joint letter calls for Congress to:

- Appropriate \$60 billion in emergency stimulus funding aimed at helping adversely affected charitable organizations.
- Encourage *all* Americans to support the vital work of America's charitable nonprofits by creating an "above-the-line" or universal charitable deduction for everyone, even those using the standard deductions, for contributions through the end of 2021. Related: to help America's charitable organizations immediately, Congress should permit taxpayers to donate today – at the height of the pandemic – and claim the benefit from these deductions on 2019 tax returns.
- Provide payroll tax credits to all charities, regardless of size, that provide paid family leave and sick time pay as a result of the coronavirus. The approach taken in the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (H.R. 6201) bill to provide a payroll tax credit to all employers of less than 500 (including charities and other nonprofits) providing emergency paid family leave and sick time pay for care related to the coronavirus is commendable, but it should apply to every charity in America regardless of size.
- As is done in the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (H.R. 6201), any additional employment-focused relief or stimulus legislation must expressly apply to employment at tax-exempt organizations by making tax credits and deductions applicable not just to income taxes, but to the taxes nonprofits pay, such as payroll taxes. Further, Congress should also ensure that relief and stimulus legislation designed to assist for-profit businesses in the areas of unemployment insurance, employee retention, and risk insurance must also address the unique challenges and realities that nonprofits face.

The charitable nonprofit community, as evidenced by the national organizations signing onto the attached message and listed below, propose the following policy solutions to the challenges that the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic is inflicting on the ability of charitable organizations to serve in this time of great need.

The COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic facing the country is having a profound impact on the economy and has greatly expanded the need for charitable organizations to provide additional services in an unprecedented manner. At the same time, the economic downturn will undoubtedly result in a

contraction in contributions and other sources of revenue which are the lifeblood of many charitable organizations. America's charities are frontline responders providing food, shelter, medical services and other critical services to those in need in their communities. At this crucial time when the American people and governments will depend even more on charitable nonprofits, contributions are likely to decrease as happened following the 2008 recession.

Without dramatic and immediate financial and programmatic backstop from government, America's charitable nonprofits and the people we serve face a precipitous decline in mission services at a time when our efforts are needed like never before by the most vulnerable in our communities.

America's charitable nonprofits need an immediate infusion of \$60 billion in capital to maintain operations, expand scope to address increasing demands, and stabilize losses from closures throughout the country. Below are specific recommendations for assistance to help the nonprofit sector stay engaged serving the American people.

- As 10% of U.S.GDP, we employ 12 million workers. We need to retain them.
- Nonprofits are on the frontlines serving people, especially those in need. We need business continuity relief.
- Give nonprofit payroll tax credit relief as this is the most significant tax we pay.
- Provide an "above-the-line" or universal charitable deduction for contributions through the end of 2021.

We appreciate the work you are doing under these very trying circumstances and ask that the work of America's charitable nonprofits is recognized as you craft policy solutions in the days to come.

Thank you.

Alliance for Strong Families and Communities
American Alliance of Museums
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
American Heart Association
American Library Association
American Lung Association
American Red Cross
Americans for the Arts
Big Brothers Big Sisters of America
Boys & Girls Clubs of America
Catholic Charities USA
City Year
Collective Liberty
Communities In Schools National Office
Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE)
Council on Foundations
Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA)

Exponent Philanthropy
Girl Scouts of the USA
Girls Inc.
Goodwill Industries International, Inc.
Habitat for Humanity International
Independent Sector
InterAction
Jewish Federations of North America
Leadership 18
The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
Lutheran Services in America
March of Dimes
Meals on Wheels America
Mental Health America
MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership
Muscular Dystrophy Association
National Coalition Against Domestic Violence
National Council of Nonprofits
National Council on Aging
National Health Council
National Human Services Assembly
National Kidney Foundation
National Multiple Sclerosis Society
National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV)
National Trust for Historic Preservation
Prevent Child Abuse America
The Salvation Army National Headquarters
United Philanthropy Forum
United Way Worldwide
Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America
Volunteers of America
Year Up
YMCA of the USA
YWCA USA