



August 17, 2018

The Honorable Rodney Frelinghuysen
Chairman
House Appropriations Committee
2306 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Richard Shelby
Chairman
Senate Appropriations Committee
304 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nita Lowey
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
2365 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Vice Chairman
Senate Appropriations Committee
437 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Hal Rogers
Chairman
State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs,
House Appropriations subcommittee
2406 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Lindsey Graham
Chairman
Senate State, Foreign Operations, and Related
Programs, Senate Appropriations subcommittee
290 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Frelinghuysen, Ranking Member Lowey, Chairman Rogers, Chairman Shelby, Vice Chairman Leahy, and Chairman Graham:

As a community of faith leaders, we write to thank you for your leadership on global food security and nutrition, and for your steadfast commitment to protect and strengthen critical funding for programs that curb hunger and malnutrition in the FY 2019 State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs (SFOPS) appropriations bill.

We care deeply about the health of vulnerable populations worldwide. American leadership is needed now more than ever as we face unprecedented global challenges of potential famines in four countries alongside an uptick in violent conflict which has displaced more than 65 million people worldwide. Our faith compels us to work to eliminate the structural causes of hunger, malnutrition, and poverty, and to promote improved health and development for the world's poorest. As such, we are grateful for funding levels provided for global food security and nutrition programs within the FY 2019 SFOPS spending bill.

Specifically, thank you for your steadfast work and support to increase the Nutrition sub-account within the Global Health Programs account of USAID, which funds critical, high impact nutrition investments. *We ask that as you finalize funding levels in the FY19 SFOPS bill, you will fund the Nutrition sub-account at the \$145 million level included in the House SFOPS bill.* Investments in nutrition are the most cost-effective way to ensure children have a chance to survive and thrive, as malnutrition is responsible for almost half of all deaths of children under the age of 5 – more than HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis combined. In 2017 alone, USG nutrition interventions reached more than 22 million children under the age of 5. With a \$20 million increase, over two hundred thousand *more* acutely malnourished children will be reached with vital nutrition interventions.

As the beginning of Scripture reminds us, we are created in God's image (Genesis 1:27), and are precious to God. Our lives are truly a gift from God, and — through our efforts — God cares for all who share that gift of life. Tragically, though, life for many women and children ends unnecessarily early. Many children who do survive suffer from stunting, causing lifelong health problems and irreversible damage to their physical and cognitive development. Today, we follow Jesus' lead in caring for people who are vulnerable around the world — especially new mothers and their young children.

We know the life-saving impact of U.S. investments in global food security and nutrition, and your leadership has

been essential to addressing the growing need. Jesus communicates God’s love for the vulnerable, and calls his people to action by reminding us that, “Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me... [f]or I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.” (Matthew 25:35-40)

Thank you for your continued leadership and consideration.

Sincerely,

Taylor Bell	Ministries Coordinator, Baptist Church of the Covenant	Birmingham, AL
Colleen Buroughs	Vice President, Passport, Inc.	Birmingham, AL
Rev. Lant Davis	Pastor, Mountain Brook Presbyterian Church	Birmingham, AL
Gary Furr, PhD	Pastor, Vestavia Hills Baptist Church	Birmingham, AL
Rev. Cat Goodrich	Pastor, First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham	Birmingham, AL
Mark Johnson	Associate Pastor, Shades Crest Baptist Church	Birmingham, AL
Anne Lucas	Director, e3 Mission, Mobilization, & Medical	Birmingham, AL
Rod Marshall	President/CEO, Alabama Baptist Children’s Homes & Family Ministries	Birmingham, AL
Mike McBrayer	Missions Pastor, Vestavia Hills Baptist Church	Birmingham, AL
Rev. Sarah Shelton	Sr. Pastor, Baptist Church of the Covenant	Birmingham, AL
Anne Stafford, MD	Pediatrician, University of Alabama-Birmingham	Birmingham, AL
Rev. R.G. Wilson-Lyons	Pastor, First Church Birmingham	Birmingham, AL
Rev. Brandon Dasinger	Teaching Pastor and Director of Missions, Frazer United Methodist Church	Montgomery, AL
Jennifer Parks	Lay Leader, Christ’s Greenfield Lutheran Church	Gilbert, AZ
Rick Thiemke, MA	Lead Pastor, Via Church	Mesa, AZ
Don Benton	Pastor, Desert Foothills, UMC	Phoenix, AZ
Gary Edmonds, MA	President & CEO, Food for the Hungry	Phoenix, AZ
Dale Dawson	CEO, Bridge2Rwanda	Little Rock, AR
Russ Holmes	Life Groups Pastor, The Church at Rock Creek	Little Rock, AR
Randy Jumper	Missions Pastor, First Assembly North Little Rock	Little Rock, AR
Rev. Britt Skarda	Senior Pastor, Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church	Little Rock, AR
Jeff Spry	Executive Director, City Connections, Inc.	Little Rock, AR
Christine Caine	Founder, Propel Women	Costa Mesa, CA
Kenton & Laurie Beshore	Senior Pastor, Mariners Church	Irvine, CA
Cathleen Falsani	Author & Religion Columnist	Laguna Beach, CA
Kim McManus	International Pastor, Mosaic Church	Los Angeles, CA
Heidi & Eric Murkoff	Author & Co-Founders, What to Expect Foundation	Los Angeles, CA
Brian Hill	Pastor, Rockharbor Church	Orange County, CA
Jena Lee Nardella	Co-Founder, Blood:Water & Author	Palo Alto, CA
Bryant Myers, PhD	Professor of Int’l Development, Fuller Theological Seminary	Pasadena, CA
Mike Soderling, MD, MBA	Director, Center for Health in Mission	Pasadena, CA
Dr. Samuel Rodriguez	President, National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference	Sacramento, CA
Lisa Bevere Springs, CO	Author, Speaker & Co-Founder, Messenger International	Colorado
Rick Carter Springs, CO	Child Survival Program Dir., Compassion International	Colorado
Santiago “Jimmy” Mellado Springs, CO	President & CEO, Compassion International	Colorado
Robert Bremer, PhD	Vice President, Colorado Access	Denver, CO
Elisa Morgan	President Emerita, MOPS International	Denver, CO

David L. McNeff, MDiv; ThM Richard L. Budensiek, D.O.	Senior Pastor, Eaton Community Church Physician, Banner Medical Group	Eaton, CO Greeley, CO
Jean Duff Paul Frank, PhD Rev. Dr. Susan Henry-Crowe	President, Partnership for Faith and Development Executive Director, SIL LEAD, Inc. General Secretary, General Board of Church & Society, The United Methodist Church	Washington, DC Washington, DC Washington, DC
Rick Santos Anita Smith Shepherd Smith Rev. Adam Taylor Jim Wallis	President and CEO, IMA World Health President, Children's AIDS Fund International President, Institute for Youth Development Executive Director, Sojourners President and Founder, Sojourners	Washington, DC Washington, DC Washington, DC Washington, DC Washington, DC
Karen Kennedy Dr. Larry Cuthill Brian McLaren Ferdie Brits, MDiv Rev. Sarah Gustafson Rev. John Harris Michael Hart Grant Highnight Tom McCloskey Dr. Jack Mercer Rev. Gabriel Salguero	Advocate, Food for the Hungry Senior Pastor, Glenwood Presbyterian Church Author, Speaker, & Activist – Convergenceus.org Senior Pastor, Presbyterian Church of the Lakes Pastor, Audobon Park Evangelical Covenant Church Associate Pastor, Downtown Baptist Church Associate Pastor, University Presbyterian Church Senior Pastor, Central Parkway Baptist Church Senior Pastor, First United Methodist Church Sr. Pastor, Church on the Drive President, National Latino Evangelical Coalition; Pastor, Calvario City Church	Bradenton, FL DeLand, FL Marco Island, FL Orlando, FL Orlando, FL Orlando, FL Orlando, FL Orlando, FL Orlando, FL Orlando, FL Orlando, FL Orlando, FL
Rev. Jenn Stiles-Williams Stefanie Weiland Rev. Beth Bostrom	Sr. Pastor, St. Luke's UMC Executive Director, LifeNet International Director of Spiritual Formation, Metropolitan Ministries	Orlando, FL Orlando, FL Tampa, FL
Durwood Snead Third Day Matthew Warren Richard Ramsey	GlobalX: Director, North Point Community Church Christian Band Engagement Pastor, CrossPoint City Church Outreach Pastor, North Metro Church	Atlanta, GA Atlanta, GA Cartersville, GA Marietta, GA
David Vanderpool, MD	Founder, LiveBeyond	Thomazeau, Haiti
Rev. Russ Melby, retired	Iowa Director, Church World Service	Ames, IA
Dennis Demoss, PE Dave Husby	President, Great Rivers Consulting, Inc. Director, Covenant World Relief, Evangelical Covenant Church	Barrington, IL Chicago, IL
Mark & Vickie Reddy Steve Bell Lynne Hybels	Directors, The Justice Conference Executive Vice President, Willow Creek Association Advocate for Global Engagement, Willow Creek Community Church	Chicago, IL Kildeer, IL South Barrington, IL
Jamie Aten, Ph.D.	Founder & Executive Director, Humanitarian Disaster Institute, Wheaton College	Wheaton, IL
Jennifer Grant	Author & Speaker	Wheaton, IL
Heloise Maconochie, PhD Dr. Matthew Myer Boulton	Visiting Scholar, Early Childhood Education and Care, Indiana University Purdue University Fort Wayne President and Professor of Theology, Christian Theological Seminary	Fort Wayne, IN Indianapolis, IN

Steve Kurtz	Member, Fellowship Bible Church	Topeka, KS
Shannon & Kevin Conforti	Director(s) of Family Health, Christian Flights International	Lexington, KY
Eric Geary	CEO, Lexington Leadership Foundation	Lexington, KY
Miles Phelps	City for the Nations Director, Lexington Leadership Foundation	Lexington, KY
Kacie Chase	Coordinator, Global Missions Health Conference	Louisville, KY
Kent Evans	Executive Director, Manhood Journey	Louisville, KY
Chuck Love	Lead Pastor, Beechland Baptist Church	Louisville, KY
Josh Rouse	Global Outreach Pastor, Northeast Christian Church	Louisville, KY
Greg McMorrow, MD	Board member, Christian Flights International	Perryville, KY
Jeff Ables	Lead Pastor, Crossroads Church	Lafayette, LA
Robin Price	Outreach Director, Crossroads Church	Lafayette, LA
Rev. Elizabeth Mangham Lott	Sr. Pastor, St. Charles Baptist Church	New Orleans, LA
Scott Arbeiter	President, World Relief	Baltimore, MD
Tim Breene	CEO, World Relief	Baltimore, MD
Melinda Gaines, CNC	Health Coordinator, Calvert County Office on Aging.	Huntingtown, MD
Annette Bourland	Sr. VP & Group Publisher, Zondervan	Grand Rapids, MI
Jo Saxton	Director, 3DM; Author & Speaker	Minneapolis, MN
The Rev. Roger Gustafson	Bishop, Central States Synod of the ELCA	Kansas City, MO
Rev. Chad Wible	Sr. Pastor, Community Covenant Church	Kirkwood, MO
Dr. Timothy Cowin	Lead Pastor, The Rock of St. Louis	St. Louis, MO
Rev. Joshua Crory Hatcher	Senior Pastor, Historic Trinity Lutheran Church	St. Louis, MO
Corinne Williams Anderson, EdD	President, American Association of University Women (AAUW-MS)	Jackson, MS
Rims and Judy Barber	Mississippi Human Services Coalition	Jackson, MS
Demetria White	Asst. Prof of Mathematics, Director of Academic IT, Tougaloo College	Jackson, MS
Sue Allen	Coordinator, Social Justice Ministry	Starkville, MS
Kay Brocato, PhD	Associate Professor, Mississippi State University	Starkville, MS
John Rogers	Associate Pastor for Campus Ministry, University Presbyterian Church	Chapel Hill, NC
Christopher Ingram	Senior Pastor, Yates Baptist Church	Durham, NC
David Walmer	Associate Professor of Global Health, Duke University	Durham, NC
Kathy Walmer, MSN, CPNP	Executive Director, Family Health Ministries	Durham, NC
Jeanette Fuccella	Executive Director, Hearts with Haiti	Raleigh, NC
Marlene Rickert, FNP-BC	Medical Director, Hope for Haiti Foundation	Raleigh, NC
Jacob Dingman, C.N.A.	Certified Nurses Aid, Azria Health Care	Omaha, NE
The Rev. Kyle Seibert	Pastor, Our Savior Lutheran Church & Campus Ministry	Hanover, NH
Fr. Eric Cruz	Bronx Regional Director, Catholic Charities NYC	New York, NY
Bruce Wilkinson	President & CEO, Catholic Medical Missions Board	New York, NY
Daphene Baines	First Lady of Southern Baptist Church	Cincinnati, OH
Joyce Kinley	President, Church Women United State of Ohio and	Cincinnati, OH

Rev. Damon Lynch, Jr. & Barbara Lynch	Church United of Greater Cincinnati Inc. Pastor and First Lady, New Jerusalem Baptist Church	Cincinnati, OH
Jon Middendorf	Pastor, OKC First Church of the Nazarene.	Oklahoma City, OK
Doug Serven	Pastor, City Presbyterian Church	Oklahoma City, OK
Jason K. Smith	Associate Pastor, OKC First Church of the Nazarene	Oklahoma City, OK
Guy Ames	Senior Associate Pastor, Asbury UMC	Tulsa, OK
Mike Hart	Missions Pastor, First Baptist Church Tulsa	Tulsa, OK
Dr. William "Hess" Hester	Senior Pastor, Southern Hills Baptist Church	Tulsa, OK
Rev. David Wiggs	Senior Pastor, Boston Avenue United Methodist Church	Tulsa, OK
Brad Steele	Pastor, LCBC Church	Lancaster, PA
Dale Brantner	President and CEO, CURE International	Lemoyne, PA
Tony Campolo, PhD	Co-Founder, Red Letter Christians	St. Davids, PA
The Rev. Timothy Seitz-Brown	Pastor, Paradise Lutheran Church	Thomasville, PA
Andrea Summer, MD	Co-Director, International Adoption Clinic, Medical University of South Carolina	Charleston, SC
Jason Surratt	Pastor of Stewardship and Global Missions, Seacoast Church	Charleston, SC
Rev. Beverly Crowe-Tipton	Senior Pastor, Fairview United Methodist Church	Greenville, SC
Fr. Joe Carnes Ananias	Former Associate Rector, Christ Church	Mt. Pleasant, SC
Leigh Brandenburg	International Missions Team, Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church	Mt. Pleasant, SC
Emily Blackledge	President, African Leadership, Inc.	Brentwood, TN
Mike Glenn	Sr. Pastor, Brentwood Baptist Church	Brentwood, TN
Natalie Grant	Artist	Brentwood, TN
Jon Lee	President, The Living Water Project	Brentwood, TN
Steve Moore	Chairman of the Board, The Shalom Foundation	Brentwood, TN
Jeff Moseley	President/Founder, Fair Trade Services	Brentwood, TN
Lott Shudde	Manager, Third Day	Brentwood, TN
Jessica Wolstenholm	Author & Co-Founder, Grace for Moms	Brentwood, TN
David Stevens, MD, MA	CEO, Christian Medical and Dental Associations	Bristol, TN
Bill Mason	Senior Pastor, Morris Hill Baptist Church	Chattanooga, TN
Justin Park	Family Outreach & International Missions Pastor, Rock Point Church	Chattanooga, TN
Rev. Joseph R. Woodfin	Associate Rector, St. Paul's Episcopal Church	Chattanooga, TN
Rachel Held Evans	Author & Speaker	Dayton, TN
Mary Beth Chapman	Author	Franklin, TN
Steven Curtis Chapman	Artist	Franklin, TN
Chaz Corzine	Manager, The MWS Group	Franklin, TN
Ian Morgan Cron	Author & Episcopal Priest	Franklin, TN
Frank Dimmock	Africa Mission Specialist, The Outreach Foundation	Louisville, KY
Melinda Doolittle	Artist	Franklin, TN
Senator Bill Frist, MD	Founder & Chair, Hope Through Healing Hands	Franklin, TN
Andrew Greer	Artist, Songwriter, & Author	Franklin, TN
Scott Hamilton	Olympic Gold Medalist & Philanthropist	Franklin, TN
Tracie Hamilton	Philanthropist & Mother	Franklin, TN
Dan Haseltine	Artist, Jars of Clay	Franklin, TN
Velvet Kelm	President, The {M}edia Collective	Franklin, TN
Charlie Lowell	Artist, Jars of Clay	Franklin, TN
John Mays	Sr. VP-A&R, Centricity Music	Franklin, TN
Ken Morris	Missions Pastor, Church of the City	Franklin, TN

Roxanne Nichols	Director of Label Operations, Provident Label Group	Franklin, TN
Christy Nockels	Artist & Speaker	Franklin, TN
Nathan Nockels	Music Producer	Franklin, TN
Kimberly Williams Paisley	Actor & Philanthropist	Franklin, TN
Emily Chapman Richards	Vice-President/Assistant Executive Director, ShowHope	Franklin, TN
Angie Smith	Author & Speaker	Franklin, TN
Michael W. Smith	Singer/Songwriter	Franklin, TN
Rev. Dr. Rob Weingartner	Executive Director, The Outreach Foundation	Franklin, TN
Steve Berger	Sr. Pastor, Grace Chapel	Leipers Fork, TN
Kenny & Christiev Alphin	Artist (Big & Rich)	Nashville, TN
Andi Ashworth	Editor, Art House America	Nashville, TN
Jill Boes, RN, BSN	Clinical and Outreach Director, Hope Clinic for Women	Nashville, TN
Jennifer Cooke	Manager, Amy Grant	Nashville, TN
Sheryl Crow	Artist	Nashville, TN
David Dark, PhD	Author, Professor of Religious Studies, Belmont University	Nashville, TN
Rev. Dr. Donovan Drake	Westminster Presbyterian Church	Nashville, TN
Jenny Eaton Dyer, PhD	Executive Director, Hope Through Healing Hands	Nashville, TN
Jeff Ford	Director of Global Good, Cross Point Church	Nashville, TN
Amy Grant	Artist	Nashville, TN
Francie Likis, DrPH, NP, CNM	Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Midwifery & Women's Health	Nashville, TN
Sarah Masen	Artist	Nashville, TN
David Moberg	SVP & Group Publisher, HarperCollins Christian Publishing	Nashville, TN
Jennifer Nettles	Artist (Sugarland)	Nashville, TN
Dr. Samuel Okpaku	President & Founder, Center for Health, Culture, & Society	Nashville, TN
Andrew Osenga	Artist/Podcast Producer, The Pivot Podcast	Nashville, TN
J. Jeffrey Palmer	CEO, Baptist Global Response	Nashville, TN
Jackie Patillo	President, Gospel Music Association	Nashville, TN
Charlie Peacock	Music Producer & Artist-in-Residence, Lipscomb University	Nashville, TN
Anna Phillips	Development Director, Bridge2Rwanda	Nashville, TN
Dan Raines	CEO, Creative Trust, Inc.	Nashville, TN
Ash Rogers	Executive Director, Lwala Community Alliance	Nashville, TN
Rev. Edwin Sanders II	Sr. Servant, Metropolitan Interdenominational Church	Nashville, TN
Scott Sauls	Sr. Pastor, Christ Presbyterian Church	Nashville, TN
Dan Scott	Sr. Pastor, Christ Church Nashville	Nashville, TN
Rev. Becca Stevens	St. Augustine's Chapel; Founder, Magdalene/Thistle Farms	Nashville, TN
Cathy Taylor, DrPH, MSN, RN	Dean & Professor, Belmont University	Nashville, TN
Debbie Taylor	Artist & Mother	Nashville, TN
Steve Taylor	Recording Artist & Filmmaker	Nashville, TN
Stephaine H. Walker, MD	Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Vanderbilt University; Overseer, Mt. Zion Baptist Church Health Care Ministry	Nashville, TN
Barrett Ward	Founder & CEO, Live FashionABLE	Nashville, TN
Dr. Gus Reyes	Director, Christian Life Commission, Texas Baptists	Austin, TX
Samuel Goff, PhD	Minister of Missions, Coggin Avenue Baptist Church	Brownwood, TX
Jen Hatmaker	Author & Speaker	Buda, TX
Esther Havens	Humanitarian Photographer	Dallas, TX
Ralph H. Done	Director of Missions, LIFE Outreach International	Fort Worth, TX
Walter August, Jr.	Author, Sr. Pastor & Chairman of Bethel's Family Church	Houston, TX
Marcus D. Holman	Missions Pastor & President of Bethel's Family Church Global Reach	Houston, TX
The Rev. Dr. Russ Levenson, Jr.	Rector, St. Martin's Episcopal Church	Houston, TX
Paul Osteen, MD	Associate Pastor, Lakewood Church	Houston, TX
Jalil Dawood	Founder, World Refugee Care	Plano, TX
Joe McIlhaney, MD	Founder and Chair, The Medical Institute for Sexual Health	Plano, TX

Jeremy Everett. MDiv	Executive Director, Baylor University, Texas Hunger Initiative	Waco, TX
Franklin Baer	Health Systems Development Specialist & Vice President, SANRU NGO & Health Systems Development Specialist	Harrisonburg, VA
Ray Martin	Emeritus Executive Director, Christian Connections for International Health	McLean, VA
Jedd Medafind	President, Christian Alliance for Orphans (CAFO)	McLean, VA
Doug Fountain	Interim Executive Director, Christian Connections for International Health	Sterling, VA
Richard Butz	President, Ascension Lutheran Church	South Burlington, VT
Rev. Lawrence Kirby II	Pastor, The Acts Church	Kenosha, WI
Bishop Lawrence Kirby	Pastor, St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church	Racine, WI