February 10, 2016

Dear Chairman Rogers, Ranking Member Lowey, Chairman Cochran, Ranking Member Mikulski, Chairwoman Granger, Chairman Graham and Ranking Member Leahy:

Thank you for your leadership in Congress in support of maternal and child health programs serving the most vulnerable. As faith-based organizations and individuals who view these programs as a moral responsibility of the United States, we are grateful for your commitment to saving the lives of women and children around the world.

As you begin the FY 2017 appropriations process, we respectfully request that you fund international family planning at the level included in the President’s Budget Request.

We seek to galvanize faith-based leaders and their constituencies around the issues of maternal, newborn and child health, including the healthy timing and spacing of pregnancies, to improve maternal health and reduce child mortality. When women and girls lack access to the education and resources they need to create a healthy plan for becoming mothers, the result is tragic: 303,000 women in developing nations die from preventable complications during childbirth, and 5.9 million children die before their fifth birthday each year.

We recognize the difficult decisions you face in a constrained budget environment, but we know the truly life-saving impact of U.S. investments in women and children. We respectfully request that you make U.S. programs for global maternal, newborn, and child health and international family planning a priority as you develop your FY 2017 Appropriations bills.

As people of faith we believe that we all have a duty to do what is within our power to help uplift these women and their families to flourish through improved health.

Sincerely,
Kenny & Christiev Alphin  
Artist (Big & Rich)  
Nashville, TN
Andi Ashworth  
Editor, Art House America  
Nashville, TN
Walter August, Jr.  
Author, Sr. Pastor & Chairman of Bethel’s Family Church  
Houston, TX
Stephan Bauman  
CEO and President, World Relief  
Baltimore, MD
Steve Berger  
Sr. Pastor, Grace Chapel  
Leipers Fork, TN
Kenton & Laurie Beshore  
Senior Pastor, Mariners Church  
Irvine, CA
Chris Bolton  
Former CEO, Blood:Water  
Nashville, TN
Dr. Matthew Myer Boulton  
President and Professor of Theology, Christian Theological Seminary  
Indianapolis, IN
Annette Bourland  
Sr. VP & Group Publisher, Zondervan  
Grand Rapids, MI
Colleen Buroughs  
Founder, Watering Malawi  
Birmingham, AL
Christine Caine  
Founder, Propel Women  
Costa Mesa, CA
Tony Campolo, PhD  
Author & Speaker, Eastern University  
St. David’s, PA
Rick Carter  
Child Survival Program Dir., Compassion International  
Colorado Springs, CO
Mary Beth Chapman  
Author  
Franklin, TN
Steven Curtis Chapman  
Artist  
Franklin, TN
Jennifer Cooke  
Manager, Amy Grant  
Nashville, TN
Chaz Corzine  
Manager, The MWS Group  
Franklin, TN
Rev. Beverly Crowe  
Senior Pastor, Fairview United Methodist Church  
Greenville, SC
David Dark  
Author, Professor of Religious Studies, Belmont University  
Nashville, TN
Melinda Doolittle  
Artist  
Franklin, TN
Jenny Eaton Dyer, PhD  
Executive Director, Hope Through Healing Hands  
Nashville, TN
Gary L. Edmonds  
President/CEO, Food for the Hungry  
Phoenix, AZ
Bill Frist, MD  
Chairman, Hope Through Healing Hands  
Nashville, TN
Jeanette Fuccella  
Executive Director, Hearts with Haiti  
Raleigh, NC
Gary Furr, PhD  
Pastor, Vestavia Hills Baptist Church  
Birmingham, AL
Mike Glenn  
Sr. Pastor, Brentwood Baptist Church  
Brentwood, TN
Amy Grant  
Artist  
Nashville, TN
Natalie Grant  
Artist  
Brentwood, TN
Garrett Grigsby  
Executive Director, Christian Connections for International Health  
Sterling, VA
Tracie Hamilton  
Philanthropist & Mother  
Franklin, TN
Scott Hamilton  
Olympic Gold Medalist & Philanthropist  
Franklin, TN
Dan Haseltine  
Artist, Jars of Clay  
Franklin, TN
Esther Havens  
Humanitarian Photographer  
Dallas, TX
Rev. Dr. Susan Henry-Crowe  
General Secretary, General Board of Church & Society, The United Methodist Church  
Washington, DC
Marcus D. Holman  
Missions Pastor & President of Bethel’s Family Church  
Global Reach  
Houston, TX
Lynne Hybels  
Advocate for Global Engagement, Willow Creek Community Church  
South Barrington, IL
Velvet Kelm  
President, The {M}edia Collective  
Franklin, TN
The Rev. Dr. Russ Levenson, Jr.  
Rector, St. Martin’s Episcopal Church  
Houston, TX
Rev. Elizabeth Mangham Lott  
Sr. Pastor, St. Charles Baptist Church  
New Orleans, LA
Charlie Lowell  
Artist, Jars of Clay  
Nashville, TN
Heloise Maconochie, PhD  
Visiting Scholar, Early Childhood Education and Care,
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title/Position/Affiliation</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rob Marshall</td>
<td>President/CEO, Alabama Baptist Children’s Homes &amp; Family Ministries</td>
<td>Birmingham, AL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ray Martin</td>
<td>Emeritus Executive Director, Christian Connections for International Health</td>
<td>McLean, VA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Masen</td>
<td>Artist</td>
<td>Nashville, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mike McBrayer</td>
<td>Minister, Vestavia Hills Baptist Church</td>
<td>Birmingham, AL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer McClure</td>
<td>Assistant Professor of Religion, Samford University</td>
<td>Birmingham, AL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joe McIlhaney, MD</td>
<td>Founder and Chair, The Medical Institute for Sexual Health</td>
<td>Plano, TX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian McLaren</td>
<td>Author &amp; Speaker</td>
<td>Marco Island, FL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jed Medafind</td>
<td>President, Christian Alliance for Orphans (CAFO)</td>
<td>McLean, VA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santiago “Jimmy” Mellado</td>
<td>President, Compassion International</td>
<td>Colorado Springs, CO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ken Morris</td>
<td>Missions Pastor, Church of the City</td>
<td>Franklin, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jena Lee Nardella</td>
<td>Co-Founder, Blood:Water &amp; Author</td>
<td>Nashville, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Nettles</td>
<td>Artist (Sugarland)</td>
<td>Nashville, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lindsey Nobles</td>
<td>COO, If: Gathering</td>
<td>Austin, TX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christy Nockels</td>
<td>Artist &amp; Speaker</td>
<td>Franklin, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathan Nockels</td>
<td>Music Producer</td>
<td>Franklin, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Osteen, MD</td>
<td>Associate Pastor, Lakewood Church</td>
<td>Houston, TX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kimberly Williams Paisley</td>
<td>Actor &amp; Philanthropist</td>
<td>Franklin, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. Jeffrey Palmer</td>
<td>Executive Director, Baptist Global Response</td>
<td>Nashville, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackie Patillo</td>
<td>President, Gospel Music Association</td>
<td>Nashville, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlie Peacock</td>
<td>Music Producer &amp; Artist-in-Residence, Lipscomb University</td>
<td>Nashville, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ash Rogers</td>
<td>Executive Director, Lwala Community Alliance</td>
<td>Nashville, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev. Edwin Sanders II</td>
<td>Sr. Servant, Metropolitan Interdenominational Church</td>
<td>Nashville, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scott Sauls</td>
<td>Sr. Pastor, Christ Presbyterian Church</td>
<td>Nashville, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jo Saxton</td>
<td>Director, 3DM; Author &amp; Speaker</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dan Scott</td>
<td>Sr. Pastor, Christ Church Nashville</td>
<td>Nashville, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev. Sarah Shelton</td>
<td>Sr. Pastor, Baptist Church of the Covenant</td>
<td>Birmingham, AL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lott Shudde</td>
<td>Manager, Third Day</td>
<td>Brentwood, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anita Smith</td>
<td>President, Children’s AIDS Fund International</td>
<td>Washington, DC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael W. Smith</td>
<td>Singer/Songwriter</td>
<td>Franklin, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shepherd Smith</td>
<td>President, Institute for Youth Development</td>
<td>Washington, DC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Durwood Snead</td>
<td>Director of GlobalX, North Point Community Church</td>
<td>Atlanta, GA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anne Stafford, MD</td>
<td>Pediatrician, University of Alabama-Birmingham</td>
<td>Birmingham, AL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Stearns</td>
<td>President, World Vision US</td>
<td>Federal Way, WA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev. Becca Stevens</td>
<td>St. Augustine’s Chapel; Founder, Magdalene/Thistle Farms</td>
<td>Nashville, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Stevens, MD, MA</td>
<td>CEO, Christian Medical and Dental Associations</td>
<td>Bristol, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sherry Surratt</td>
<td>CEO and President, MOPS International</td>
<td>Colorado Springs, CO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cathy Taylor</td>
<td>Dean &amp; Professor, Belmont University</td>
<td>Nashville, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steve Taylor</td>
<td>Recording Artist &amp; Filmmaker</td>
<td>Nashville, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Day</td>
<td>Christian Band</td>
<td>Atlanta, GA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Vanderpool, MD</td>
<td>Founder, LiveBeyond</td>
<td>Thomazeau, Haiti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephaine H. Walker, MD</td>
<td>Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Vanderbilt University</td>
<td>Nashville, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim Wallis</td>
<td>President and Founder, Sojourners</td>
<td>Washington, DC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathy Walmer, MSN, CPNP</td>
<td>Executive Director, Family Health Ministries</td>
<td>Durham, NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Walter</td>
<td>President, African Leadership</td>
<td>Brentwood, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Location</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barrett Ward</td>
<td>Founder &amp; CEO, Live FashionABLE</td>
<td>Brentwood, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stefanie Weiland</td>
<td>Executive Director, LifeNet International</td>
<td>Orlando, FL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev. Dr. Rob Weingartner</td>
<td>Executive Director, The Outreach Foundation</td>
<td>Franklin, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruce Wilkinson</td>
<td>President &amp; CEO, Catholic Medical Missions Board</td>
<td>New York, NY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jessica Wolstenholm</td>
<td>Author &amp; Co-Founder, Grace for Moms</td>
<td>Nashville, TN</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>