



April 15, 2018

Congressman Rodney Frelinghuysen  
2306 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Senator Richard Shelby  
304 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Congresswoman Nita Lowey  
2365 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Senator Patrick Leahy  
437 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Congressman Hal Rogers  
2406 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Senator Lindsey Graham  
290 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Frelinghuysen, Ranking Member Lowey, Chairman Rogers, Chairman Cochran, Ranking Member 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 to urge you to protect critical funding for these programs in the FY 2019 State and Foreign Operations appropriations bill.

We care deeply about the health of vulnerable populations worldwide, and we know that American leadership is needed now more than ever as we face an unprecedented global challenge of four potential famines, and more than 65 million displaced persons worldwide.

We are deeply concerned about the steep cuts to global food security and nutrition programs in the President's FY 2019 budget request. Specifically, the budget request calls for a severe cut to the Nutrition sub-account within the Global Health Programs of USAID. More than 27 million children under 5 were reached by USAID nutrition interventions in 2016 alone. A 40 percent cut, as proposed in the FY 2019 budget request, would result in 11 million children not being reached with vital nutrition interventions. According to a recent study, every dollar spent on nutrition in the first 1,000 days of a child's life can save an average \$45 and in some cases as much as \$166. We should be increasing U.S. support for nutrition, not pulling back.

The President's budget request also proposes steep cuts to the Feed the Future global agriculture development initiative and calls for the elimination of the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Programs and the PL 480 Food for Peace program. Lastly, the budget request calls for severe cuts to the International Organizations account and related multilateral funding streams, through which the U.S. government supports the critical food security and nutrition work of agencies such as the World Food Program, UNICEF, the Foreign Agriculture Organization, the International Fund for Agriculture Development and the World Health Organization.

We understand the challenges you face within a limited budget, but we know the truly life-saving impact of U.S. investments in global food security and nutrition. As a community of faith, we are called to action to help uplift the most poor and vulnerable. Therefore, we respectfully request that you protect funding for these critical programs. Thank you for your continued leadership and for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Taylor Bell  
Colleen Buroughs  
Gary Furr, PhD  
Anne Lucas  
Rod Marshall

Ministries Coordinator, Baptist Church of the Covenant  
Vice President, Passport, Inc.  
Pastor, Vestavia Hills Baptist Church  
Director, e3 Mission, Mobilization, & Medical  
President/CEO, Alabama Baptist Children's Homes &

Birmingham, AL  
Birmingham, AL  
Birmingham, AL  
Birmingham, AL  
Birmingham, AL

	Family Ministries	
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. 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
Dale Dawson	CEO, Bridge2Rwanda	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
Jena Lee Nardella	Co-Founder, Blood:Water & Author	Palo Alto, CA
Bryant Myers, PhD	Professor of Int'l Development, Fuller Theological Seminary	Pasadena, CA
Dr. Samuel Rodriguez	President, National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference	Sacramento, CA
Lisa Bevere	Author, Speaker & Co-Founder, Messenger International	Colorado Springs, CO
Rick Carter	Child Survival Program Dir., Compassion International	Colorado Springs, CO
Santiago "Jimmy" Mellado	President & CEO, Compassion International	Colorado Springs, CO
Elisa Morgan	President Emerita, MOPS International	Denver, CO
Jean Duff	President, Partnership for Faith and Development	Washington, DC
Paul Frank, PhD	Executive Director, SIL LEAD, Inc.	Washington, DC
Rev. Dr. Susan Henry-Crowe	General Secretary, General Board of Church & Society, The United Methodist Church	Washington, DC
Anita Smith	President, Children's AIDS Fund International	Washington, DC
Shepherd Smith	President, Institute for Youth Development	Washington, DC
Jim Wallis	President and Founder, Sojourners	Washington, DC
Brian McLaren	Author, Speaker, & Activist – Convergenceus.org	Marco Island, FL
Rev. John Harris	Associate Pastor, Downtown Baptist Church	Orlando, FL
Michael Hart	Associate Pastor, University Presbyterian Church	Orlando, FL
Grant Highnight	Senior Pastor, Central Parkway Baptist Church	Orlando, FL
Tom McCloskey	Senior Pastor, First United Methodist Church	Orlando, FL
Dr. Jack Mercer	Sr. Pastor, Church on the Drive	Orlando, FL
Rev. Gabriel Salguero	President, National Latino Evangelical Coalition; Pastor, Calvario City Church	Orlando, FL
Stefanie Weiland	Executive Director, LifeNet International	Orlando, FL
Durwood Snead	GlobalX: Director, North Point Community Church	Atlanta, GA
Third Day	Christian Band	Atlanta, GA
Richard Ramsey	Outreach Pastor, North Metro Church	Marietta, GA
David Vanderpool, MD	Founder, LiveBeyond	Thomazeau, Haiti
Mark & Vickie Reddy	Directors, The Justice Conference	Chicago, IL
Steve Bell	Executive Vice President, Willow Creek Association	Kildeer, IL

Lynne Hybels	Advocate for Global Engagement, Willow Creek Community Church	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	Visiting Scholar, Early Childhood Education and Care, Indiana University Purdue University Fort Wayne	Fort Wayne, IN
Dr. Matthew Myer Boulton	President and Professor of Theology, Christian Theological Seminary	Indianapolis, IN
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 McMorro, 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
Annette Bourland	Sr. VP & Group Publisher, Zondervan	Grand Rapids, MI
Jo Saxton	Director, 3DM; Author & Speaker	Minneapolis, MN
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
Sue Allen	Coordinator, Social Justice Ministry	Starkville, MS
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Christopher Ingram	Senior Pastor, Yates Baptist Church	Durham, NC
Kathy Walmer, MSN, CPNP	Executive Director, Family Health Ministries	Durham, NC
Jeanette Fuccella	Executive Director, Hearts with Haiti	Raleigh, NC
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Bruce Wilkinson	President & CEO, Catholic Medical Missions Board	New York, NY
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Joyce Kinley	President, Church Women United State of Ohio and Church United of Greater Cincinnati Inc.	Cincinnati, OH

Rev. Damon Lynch, Jr. & Barbara Lynch	Pastor and First Lady, New Jerusalem Baptist Church	Cincinnati, OH
Jason K. Smith	Associate Pastor, OKC First Church of the Nazarene	Oklahoma City, 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
Dale Brantner	President and CEO, CURE International	Lemoyne, PA
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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
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
Chris Devaney	Executive Director, Children's Nutrition Program of Haiti	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
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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
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Charlie Peacock	Music Producer & Artist-in-Residence, Lipscomb University	Nashville, TN
Anna Phillips	Development Director, Bridge2Rwanda	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
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Esther Havens	Humanitarian Photographer	Dallas, 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
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
Ray Martin	Emeritus Executive Director, Christian Connections for International Health	McLean, VA
Jedd Medafind	President, Christian Alliance for Orphans (CAFO)	McLean, VA
Bill Holbrook	Executive Director, Christian Connections for International Health	Sterling, VA