

# America's charities request \$60 billion infusion of support to help the most vulnerable

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.

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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.

## America's charitable nonprofits are significant employers

America's charities employ over 12 million people, with payrolls exceeding those of most other U.S. industries, including construction, transportation, and finance. The largest expenditures for most of America's charitable organizations are personnel costs. Unfortunately, in multiple disaster relief laws in the past, Congress has approved employment-related tax credits that fail to recognize that we are significant employers.

Policy Solution: 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.

#### America's charitable nonprofits need business continuity relief

Millions of jobs in America's charitable sector are at risk unless a reliable source of cash can be provided to assure continued operations. And in many cases the scope of operations will need to expand to accommodate increased demand for vital services. The survival of many of America's charities is jeopardized by unprecedented revenue losses from closed programming and services offered, as well as anticipated shortfalls in fundraising. America's charitable nonprofits, which are so essential to a healthy economy, need a reliable source of cash over the next several weeks and months to ensure we can continue to serve our communities.

Policy Solution: America's charitable nonprofits request \$60 billion in emergency stimulus funding aimed at helping adversely affected national and local organizations. These funds can be distributed quickly through multiple funding streams, including, but not limited, to expansion of the Economic Injury Disaster Loan program for nonprofit employers, emergency grants to nonprofits operating under grants from federal, state, local, or other pass-through entities, and other to ensure the continued flow of charitable donations.

Policy Solution: To incentivize all Americans to support the vital work of America's charities, we call on Congress to enact an "above-the-line" or universal charitable deduction for contributions through the end of 2021. Further, to help those who step forward to help America's charitable organizations immediately assist the most vulnerable, Congress should permit taxpayers to

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donate today – at the height of the pandemic – and claim the benefit from these deductions on 2019 tax returns.

#### America's charitable nonprofit employees must be protected

The workers in America's charities are on the frontlines of the coronavirus response. Our workers are the backbone of the food banks, shelters, domestic violence services, houses of worship, early care and education centers, after-school facilities, and more that are being called on to feed, house, and care for people whose lives have been disrupted by closures, job loss, and sickness.

Policy Solution: Every charity in America, regardless of size, that provides paid family and medical leave should receive a tax credit the organization can use. We applaud the HR 6201 approach to provide a *payroll tax credit* to all employers of a certain size (including charities and other nonprofits) providing emergency paid family leave and sick time pay for care related to the coronavirus. Congress should provide payroll tax credits to all charities, regardless of size, that provide such paid family leave and sick time pay as a result of the coronavirus.

# America's Charitable Nonprofits Are in Every Community Ready to Serve

Everywhere in America charitable organizations are already in place serving the needs of residents. Every dollar granted, donated, or earned goes back into the community immediately to address clear and present problems. Charities are our economy's shock absorber when crisis hits.

# Signing Organizations

Accord Network

ACCSES - The Voice of Disability Service

**Providers** 

Adult & Teen Challenge USA Adventure Cycling Association

Afterschool Alliance

American Society on Aging Agudath Israel of America Alliance for Peacebuilding

Alliance for Strong Families and Communities Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments

Alliance to End Hunger Alzheimer's Association America's Promise Alliance American Alliance of Museums

American Cancer Society Cancer Action

Network

American Diabetes Association American Heart Association American Indian College Fund American Leprosy Missions American Library Association American Lung Association

**American Trails** 

American Public Health Association

American Red Cross Americans for the Arts Appalachian Trail Conservancy

ASAE

Association on American Indian Affairs Association of Art Museum Directors

Association of Children's Residential Centers

(ACRC)

Association of Public Health Laboratories Association of the United States Navy Association of University Centers on

Disabilities (AUCD)
Best Buddies International
Bethany Christian Services

Big Brothers Big Sisters of America Blinded Veterans Association (BVA)

Boy Scouts of America

Boys & Girls Clubs of America

Boys Town

Bread for the World

CADCA

Call of the Sea

Campaign for a Commercial-Free Childhood

CARE

Catholic Charities USA

Catholic Medical Mission Board

Catholic Relief Services

Center for Community Progress

Center for Public Justice

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CenterLink

Chabad on Campus International

ChildFund International

Christian Alliance for Orphans (CAFO)

Christian Connections for International Health

Church Alliance Church World Service Citizen Schools Citygate Network

City Year

Clooney Foundation for Justice

Collective Liberty

Communities In Schools National Office

**Community Action Partnership** 

Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America

(CADCA)

**Compassion International** 

**Consumer Reports** 

Council for Advancement and Support of

Education (CASE)

Council for Christian Colleges & Universities

(CCCU)

Council on Foundations

Council on International Educational Exchange

Dance/USA

David Brower Center
Disabled Children's Fund
East Coast Greenway Alliance

Encore.org

**Epilepsy Foundation** 

**Evangelical Council for Financial** 

Accountability (ECFA)

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Environmental Volunteers The Episcopal Church Exponent Philanthropy Faith & Giving Coalition

**FoodCorps** 

Food for the Hungry Futures Without Violence

General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Generations United Girl Scouts of the USA

Girls Inc.

Goodwill Industries International, Inc. Habitat for Humanity International

Haddassah, the Women's Zionist Organization

of America

Healing Household 6 Healthy Schools Campaign Helen Keller International Hetrick-Martin Institute

**IDEAS** 

Independent Sector

Institute of International Education

InterAction

InterExchange, Inc.

International Rescue Committee

Islamic Relief USA

Jewish Community Centers (JCC) Association

of North America

Jewish Federations of North America

Jumpstart Landesa Leadership 18

League of American Orchestras The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Lutheran Services in America

MAMA Project March of Dimes

Mazon, a Jewish Response to Hunger

Meals on Wheels America Mental Health America

MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership

The Military Order of the Purple Heart Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust Muscular Dystrophy Association

NACE International

National Alliance on Mental Illness National Alliance to End Sexual Violence National Association of Evangelicals

National Audubon Society

National Center for Missing & Exploited

Children

National Coalition Against Domestic Violence National Council of Juvenile and Family Court

Judges (NCJFCJ)

National Council of Nonprofits National Council on Aging

National Environmental Health Association

National Fitness Foundation National Health Council

National Human Services Assembly National Indian Child Welfare League

National Indian Health Board National Kidney Foundation

National Marine Sanctuary Foundation National Multiple Sclerosis Society

National Network for Youth

National Network to End Domestic Violence

(NNEDV)

National Organization of State Associations for

Children (NOSAC)

National Trust for Historic Preservation

Native American Rights Fund Native Ways Federation

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NatureBridge

Nonprofit Alliance

Nonprofit Leadership Alliance

North American Division of Seventh-day

Adventists

Notre Dame Mission Volunteers

**OPERA** America

**Playworks** 

**Prevent Blindness** 

Prevent Child Abuse America

Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

Reading Partners

Rebuilding Together

**RESOLVE** 

Safe States Alliance

Saint Francis Ministries

The Salvation Army National Headquarters

Save Our Shores

Search for Common Ground

Smart Growth America (SGA)

Sojourners

Special Olympics International

Student Conservation Association

Susan G. Komen

**Teach For America** 

The Corps Network

The Independence Fund

The Sentry

TREA: The Enlisted Association

Trust for America's Health

**TSNE MissionWorks** 

**UCP** National

Union of Concerned Scientists

United Philanthropy Forum

**United Spinal Association** 

U.S. Soccer Foundation

United Way Worldwide

Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of

America

Union for Reform Judaism

VetsFirst

VisionServe Alliance

Volunteers of America

Wilderness Inquiry

World Learning

World Relief

Year Up

YMCA of the USA

YouthBuild USA

YWCA USA