

November 1, 2022

Dear Senator/Representative:

The enactment of the Continuing Resolution through December 16 was a necessary stopgap measure to allow Congress to come to agreement on full-year omnibus appropriations legislation for Fiscal Year 2023. We thank you for your leadership in averting a funding crisis and urge you to work swiftly to approve a final agreement that provides increases in domestic and international program funding (non-defense discretionary spending, or NDD), no less than those proposed by the House of Representatives for Fiscal Year 2023 and that is unencumbered by poison pill riders. At minimum, the House-proposed NDD levels are required to respond to the level of need and the precarious nature of today's economy. Creating a separate veterans' medical services funding category, as proposed in the Biden Administration's FY 2023 budget, would ensure adequate funding for veterans' medical care while minimizing competition with other vital NDD programs.

Your constituents are being buffeted by the ongoing consequences of the pandemic, natural disasters, and other international contributors to rising prices and shortages of goods. These affect their health, their access to work and affordable child care, their ability to pay for basic needs, and their children's education. In 2021, more than 40 percent of people with household income less than \$50,000 were paying half or more of their income on rent. Similar proportions now report finding it somewhat or very difficult to pay for their regular household expenses. Food and home energy costs are up and the proportion of people who say their households have gone without food in the previous week has risen more than 40 percent since August, 2021 (from 8.2% to 11.5 percent). Efforts by the Federal Reserve to control inflation are expected to result in more people without jobs. All of this is hitting people with low incomes the hardest: rural, urban, women, children, Black, brown, and Indigenous people, the aging and people with disabilities on fixed incomes. In addition to the moral wrong of ignoring these hardships, if their losses grow, it may trigger or worsen a recession, and that would needlessly threaten our nation's economic security.

In the face of this, the proposed increases in funding for domestic and international programs make modest but important progress after years of decline, taking inflation into account. These [NDD programs lost 4 percent](#) of their value from FY 2010 to FY 2022, counting inflation and population growth. However, if the fast-growing spending on VA medical care is separated out, the rest of NDD programs declined by 10 percent. The [Coalition on Human Needs](#) has tracked programs particularly targeted to assist people with low incomes from FY 2010 through FY 2022. Nearly two-thirds (63 percent) saw cuts over this period; nearly one-third (31 percent) lost 20 percent or more, taking inflation into account.

Now and into 2023, increased inflation makes it still more urgent that appropriations for domestic and other non-defense programs keep pace with growing costs and growing need. Service providers in the public or private sectors must be able to keep salaries and benefits competitive to maintain an adequate workforce; rising costs for rent and supplies also strain their budgets.

The signers of this letter represent 411 human service providers, faith groups, policy experts, labor, civil rights, disability, and other anti-poverty advocates who see the precarious position of our people nationwide. Reducing funding for domestic and international programs below the House-proposed levels will jeopardize our ability to respond to urgent human needs and will imperil our capacity to help

Americans recover from the multiple disasters they have faced or may face in the year ahead. We urge you to see protecting these funding levels as a matter of national security.

Sincerely,

20/20 Vision

ADAP Advocacy Association

Addiction Connections Resource

Advocates for Responsible Care

African American Health Alliance

African Family Holistic Health Organization

AIDS Alabama

AIDS United

Alabama Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Alameda County Community Food Bank

Alaska Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Alliance to End Hunger

Alpha-1 Foundation

American Academy of HIV Medicine

American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges

American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)

American Federation of Teachers

American Friends Service Committee

American Society of Nephrology

Amigos Del Valle, Inc.

Area Agency on Aging of Pasco-Pinellas, Inc.

Arizona Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Arizona Food Bank Network

Arkansas Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Arkansas Human Development Corporation

Ashland County Aging Unit Inc.

Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology

Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries

Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs

Association of University Centers on Disabilities

Atlanta Pride Committee

Autism Society of America

Benedictine Sisters of Florida

Bergen County Green Party

Berks Encore

Blackbelt & Central Alabama Housing

Blue Ridge Community Action Inc

Bread Line, Inc.

Brighter Beginnings

Bucks County Women's Advocacy Coalition

California Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

California Human Development

Caring Across Generations

Casa Baltimore Limay

Center for American Progress

Center for Employment Training (CET)

Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)

CenterLink: The Community of LGBT Centers

Central Pennsylvania Food Bank

Central Valley Opportunity Center

Child Care Resources, Inc

Child Care Services Association

Child Welfare League of America

Children's HealthWatch

Children's Home Society of America

Church of St. Francis Xavier

Church World Service

Citizen Action of NY

City Harvest

Cleveland Chapter of Irish Northern Aid

Coalition on Human Needs

COASAP

Colorado Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault

Colorado Cross-Disability Coalition

Communities Actively Living Independent & Free (CALIF)

Community Access National Network (CANN)

Community Action Partnership - Sonoma

Community Action Partnership of North Central Missouri

Community Action Pioneer Valley

Community Development Authority of Marshfield

Community Food Advocates

Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, U.S. Provinces

Connecticut Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Cornucopia Community Advocates

Council for Opportunity in Education

Council of Administrators of Special Education

Court Watch Montgomery

D. C. Hunger Solutions

DC Metro Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Delaware Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Disability Rights Nebraska

Doctors for Change

Drug Policy Alliance

Early Childhood Quality Council  
East Bay Housing Organizations  
Eden Village of Excelsior Springs  
Ehrens Consulting  
Empower Missouri  
End Hunger Connecticut!  
Endangered Species Coalition  
Family Refuge Center  
FamilyAid Boston  
Fast-Track Cities Institute  
Feeding Texas  
First Christian Church, Disciples  
First Focus Campaign for Children  
First World Architects Studio  
FL National Organization for Women  
Flathead County Agency on Aging  
Florida Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers  
Florida Impact  
Food Bank of Central New York  
Food Bank of Delaware  
Food Bank of Northern Nevada  
Food For Families  
Food For Thought  
Food Helpers/DBA Gr. Washington County Food Bank  
Food Research & Action Center (FRAC)  
Friends Committee on National Legislation  
Full Plates Full Potential  
Futures Without Violence  
Gaithersburg HELP

Georgia Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Georgia Equality

Good Shepherd Food Bank

Great Lakes ADA of Michigan

Greater Lansing Peace Education Center

Greater Orlando National Organization for Women

Greater Philadelphia Coalition Against Hunger

Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank

Green Mountain Self-Advocates

Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart

Guam Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Hawaii Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Health and Welfare Council of Long Island

Health Care Voices

Healthcare Alternative Systems

Healthy Teen Network

Hepatitis B Foundation

Hispanic Federation

HIV + Hepatitis Policy Institute

HIV Medicine Association

Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters, USA-JPIC

Homer Senior Citizens, Inc.

Horizons, A Family Service Alliance

Housing Opportunities of Fort Worth, Inc.

Houston Food Bank

Humboldt UU Fellowship

Hunger Free Vermont

Hunger Solutions Minnesota

Hunger Task Force

Hunger-Free Pennsylvania

Idaho Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

IDEA Infant and Toddler Coordinators Association (ITCA)

Illinois Action for Children

Illinois Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Illinois Hunger Coalition

Impact Fund

Indiana Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Indiana Coalition to End Sexual Assault and Human Trafficking

Indiana County Community Action Program, Inc.

Iowa Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Iowa Citizen Action Network

Iowa Coalition Against Sexual Assault

Islamic Relief USA

Island Harvest Food Bank

Jewish Council for Public Affairs

Jewish Family and Children's Service of Minneapolis

Jewish Family Service of Colorado

Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia

Jewish Women International

Just Harvest

Justice in Aging

Kansas Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence

Kentucky Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Kids Above All

La Cooperativa Campesina de California

Latinas Unidas por un Nuevo Amanecer (L.U.N.A.)

LeadingAge

League of Conservation Voters  
Least Of These, Inc.  
LifeStream Services, Inc.  
Livingston County Senior Nutrition / Western Oakland Meals on Wheels  
Local Office on Aging, Inc.  
Long Beach Gray Panthers  
Long Island Cares, Inc.-The Harry Chapin Food Bank  
Los Angeles LGBT Center  
Louisiana Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers  
Main Street Alliance  
Maine Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers  
Maine Equal Justice  
Maryland Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers  
Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault  
Maryland Hunger Solutions  
Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence Inc (MNADV)  
Massachusetts Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers  
Massachusetts Law Reform Institute  
Massachusetts Peace Action  
Matthew 25 AIDS Services, Inc.  
Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.  
Maurice & Jane Sugar Law Center for Economic and Social Justice  
MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger  
Meals on Wheels America  
Meals on Wheels Association of Georgia  
Meals on Wheels Association of Oklahoma  
Meals on Wheels California  
Meals on Wheels Diablo Region  
Meals on Wheels North Central Texas

Meals on Wheels of Coweta, Inc.

Meals on Wheels of Eastern Onondaga County, Inc

Meals on Wheels Older Adult Alternatives of Fairfield County Inc

Meals on Wheels Orange County

Medical Library Association

Metro New York Health Care for All

Metro West Housing Solutions

Metropolitan Community Churches

Michigan Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Middletown Senior Center

Minnesota Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Mississippi Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Mississippi Delta Council for Farmworkers Opportunities, Inc.

Missouri Budget Project

Missouri Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Modern Maturity Center

Montana Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Montana Food Bank Network

Montgomery County Food Council

Montpelier Senior Activity Center

Morgan County Democrats

Motivation, Education & Training, Inc.

Mount Vernon United Tenants

Mt. Graham Safe House

NASTAD

National Adult Day Services Association (NADSA)

National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd

National Alliance to End Sexual Violence

National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs

National Association of RSVP Directors  
National Association of Social Workers  
National Center for Healthy Housing  
National Center for Learning Disabilities  
National Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
National Coalition for the Homeless  
National Coalition of STD Directors  
National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare  
National Community Action Partnership  
National Consumer Law Center (on behalf of its low income clients)  
National Council for Community and Education Partnerships  
National Council of Jewish Women  
National Council on Aging  
National Employment Law Project  
National Family Planning & Reproductive Health Association  
National Head Start Association  
National Health Care for the Homeless Council  
National Homelessness Law Center  
National Housing Resource Center  
National Immigration Law Center  
National Job Corps Association  
National Low Income Housing Coalition  
National NeighborWorks Association  
National Network to End Domestic Violence  
National Organization for Women  
National Organization for Women Southern District  
National Priorities Project at the Institute for Policy Studies  
National Resource Center on Domestic Violence  
National Senior Corps Association

National Skills Coalition

National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable (NVHR)

National WIC Association

National Women's Law Center

Natural Resources Defense Council

Navajo United Methodist Center/New Beginnings

NC Coalition Against Sexual Assault

Nebraska Appleseed

Nebraska Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice

Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies

Nevada Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

New England Farm Workers' Council

New Hampshire Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence

New Hampshire School Administrators Association

New Jersey Association on Correction

New Jersey Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

New Jersey Citizen Action

New Mexico Appleseed

New Mexico Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

New York City Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

New York State Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

NH Hunger Solutions

NJ Public Health Association

North Carolina AIDS Action Network

North Carolina Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

North Dakota Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Northwest Harvest

Occupy Bergen County

Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence

Ohio Association of Area Agencies on Aging

Ohio Association of Foodbanks

Ohio Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

OIC of Washington

Oklahoma Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Operation Food Search

Oregon Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Oregon Food Bank

Oregon Human Development Corporation

ORO Development Corp.

Our Father's Family Keeper Ministries

Papa Ola Lokahi

Pasco Kids First

PathStone Corporation

Pax Christi Illinois

Peace & Justice Action League of Spokane

Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Philadelphia Association of Community Development Corporations

Planned Parenthood Federation of America

PlusInc

PPEP, Inc.

Preble Street

Prevent Blindness

Project Bread

Proposition One Campaign for a Nuclear-Free Future

Prosperity Now

Prosperity Works

Proteus, Inc.

Public Advocacy for Kids (PAK)

Public Citizen

Public Justice Center

Puerto Rico Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Pulmonary Hypertension Association

Rachel Carson Council

Residents United Network Los Angeles

RESULTS

Rhode Island Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

River Valley AAA

Rocky Mountain SER

RootsAction.org

Ryan White Medical Providers Coalition

Safe States Alliance

Safer Foundation

San Diego for Every Child

San Francisco AIDS Foundation

School Social Work Association of America

School-Based Health Alliance

Seattle/King County Coalition on Homelessness

Second Harvest of Silicon Valley

Senior Citizens Inc.

SER Corporation

SER National

SERCAP, INC.

Sisters of Charity of Nazareth Western Province Leadership

Sisters of Charity of Seton Hill

Sisters of Mercy of the Americas - Justice Team

Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi  
Sisters of the Presentation, Dubuque, IA  
SLR (Statewide Labor Roundtable)  
Snake River Alliance  
Society of General Internal Medicine  
South Carolina Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers  
South Dakota Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers  
Spectrum Health Care  
St. Francis Center  
Sterling Area Senior Citizens, Inc.  
TASH  
Telamon Corporation  
Tennessee Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers  
Tennessee Opportunity Programs, Inc.  
Texas Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers  
Texas Council of Administrators of Special Education  
The AIDS Institute  
The Arc of Ohio  
The Arc of the United States  
The Center  
The Center for Youth and Family Solutions  
The Education Trust  
The Food Trust  
The Fund for Women and Girls  
The National Alliance to Advance Adolescent Health  
The National Domestic Violence Hotline  
The Open Door Shelter, inc.  
Toppenish Community Chest  
Treatment Communities of America

Triangle Empowerment Center

TrustedRiders Inc

Turning Point Inc.

UMOS

UnidosNow

UnidosUS

United Church of Christ Justice and Local Church Ministries

United Way of Kern County

United Way of Northern NJ

Urban Justice Center

USAging

Utah Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Utahns Against Hunger

VA Hunger Solutions

Vermont Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence

Virgin Islands Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Virginia Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Vision For Equality, Inc

Voices of Hope, Inc.

Volunteers of America, Utah

Warren County Home Delivery Meals, Inc

Warren County Senior Center

Washington Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Washington Food Coalition

Watertown for Peace, Justice, and the Environment

West Chester Food Cupboard

West Virginia Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

White Center Parent Ambassadors

WIC Association of NYS, Inc.

Wildfire: Igniting Community Action to End Poverty in Arizona

Wisconsin Aging Advocacy Network

Wisconsin Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault

Wisconsin Community Action Program Association, Inc.

Wyoming Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers

ZERO TO THREE