

# Support PEPFAR, the President's Global AIDS Initiative, and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria in FY2021

Please join Senators Cory Booker (D-NJ) and Dan Sullivan (R-AK) in the call for continued funding for Global HIV/AIDS in both PEPFAR and the Global Fund in fiscal year 2021. For more information, or to sign onto the letter, please contact [Sophia Lalani@booker.senate.gov](mailto:Sophia_Lalani@booker.senate.gov) in Senator Booker's office or [Liz Banicki@sullivan.senate.gov](mailto:Liz_Banicki@sullivan.senate.gov) in Senator Sullivan's office.

*\*\*The closing date for this letter is April 16, 2020\*\**

April XX, 2020

The Honorable Lindsey Graham  
Chairman  
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee  
State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs  
Programs Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patrick Leahy  
Ranking Member  
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee  
State, Foreign Operations and Related  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Graham and Ranking Member Leahy:

We are writing to request that you continue critical investments in global health programs, in particular the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund). We are grateful for your past leadership in ensuring these programs continue to be robustly funded, and look to you again as PEPFAR and the Global Fund work towards the rapid acceleration of HIV prevention and treatment programs with the goal of ending the AIDS epidemic by 2030.

U.S. leadership through PEPFAR and other bilateral investments, along with multilateral investments in the Global Fund over time, have been transformative in fighting the deadly HIV/AIDS epidemic, and the results are astounding. In 2019, PEPFAR supported life-saving antiretroviral treatment for 15.7 million people, including nearly 700,000 children. Through PEPFAR support, over 6.3 million orphans, vulnerable children and their caregivers accessed critical care and support services and since its inception, more than 2.6 million new infections were averted in children.

At the same time, the Global Fund's efforts have saved over 32 million lives since its inception in 2002. In 2018, the Global Fund supported 18.9 million people on anti-retroviral treatment for HIV, treated 5.3 million people for TB, and distributed 131 million insecticide-treated bed nets for malaria prevention.

Despite the tremendous progress made on HIV globally, every week, around 6,000 young women aged 15-24 are infected with HIV worldwide and the Global Fund invests in programs that support adolescent girls and young women.

Similarly, progress on the TB epidemic hinges on finding the over three million people “missed” by health systems each year. The Global Fund has focused efforts in 13 countries that account for 75 percent of missing people with TB globally to find an additional 1.5 million people by the end of 2019, and then again every year. The impact of the U.S. contribution to Global Fund is magnified by the fact that for each dollar of U.S. investment, \$2 of non-US funding for AIDS, TB, and malaria programming is leveraged. Consistent with PEPFAR authorizing legislation since 2004, the U.S. should continue to provide 33% of Global Fund resources.

The co-epidemics require an integrated approach with investments and efforts to tackle both diseases together. PEPFAR alongside the Global Fund, are leading global efforts to not only improve HIV care, but also enable countries to improve the overall health of their citizens by creating a lasting infrastructure that positions partner countries to respond to a range of health challenges and threats. Providing robust support for PEPFAR and the Global Fund bolsters the United States’ relationship in the world, and increases our ability to strengthen health systems that protect against virulent disease outbreaks, while making progress in combatting tuberculosis and malaria.

These successes are only possible because of longstanding bi-partisan support for the programs. Congress’s recent extension of the PEPFAR program and the U.S. participation in the Global Fund reinforces a renewed commitment to ending AIDS as a global health threat. Thank you for considering our request for robust funding and for your ongoing leadership in fighting HIV/AIDS.

Sincerely,

Cory Booker  
United States Senator

Dan Sullivan  
United States Senator