# **2021 CONGRESSIONAL REQUESTS**



# **Note on Leave-Behind Folders for Congressional Meetings**

All materials for your actions are linked below and can be found in the "Leave Behinds" section of the <u>RESULTS conference resources page</u>.

# **Key U.S. Poverty Requests**

# Include Guaranteed Multi-Year Funding for Housing Choice Vouchers in Recovery Legislation

Each year, millions of low-income Americans struggle to afford housing. Wages have not kept up with increase in rents - since 1960 renters' median earnings have gone up 5 percent while rents are up 61 percent. But **only one in four eligible low-income renters receive federal housing assistance**. Furthermore, because of housing segregation and other policies that created wealth for some Americans while blocking opportunity for Black families and other people of color, **Black households are disproportionately harmed by the affordable housing crisis**. Before the pandemic, an estimated 24 million low-income renters paid over half of their income on housing; and many more are behind on their rent payments and are **at-risk of evictions and homelessness since they cannot afford their housing long-term**. Congress must prioritize rental assistance, not just increase the supply of affordable housing, in any recovery legislation to lift people out of poverty and address racial inequities in housing.

# **Background documents**

Housing Policy Overview

## **HOUSE and SENATE Requests**

Will you tell congressional leaders to include guaranteed multi-year funding for Housing Choice Vouchers in recovery legislation? And will you show your support by signing on to pending legislation or Dear Colleague letter calling for this expansion?

#### Leave behinds:

- Housing Request
- Housing Choice Voucher Dear Colleague Letter

# **Expand Tax Credits for Low-Wage Workers and Families**

Congress is working behind the scenes on a large-scale recovery package and this bill must make the new Child Tax Credit (CTC) and Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) expansions permanent. Expanding the size and reach of these tax credits will help low-income workers and families make ends meet, reduce child poverty, and lay the foundation for a more equitable recovery. An estimated 27 million children in low-income families did not receive the full CTC, which will begin to be distributed as a monthly child allowance starting July 15, until this year. Columbia University researchers estimate this can reduce the number of children living below the federal poverty line by almost half, and have a larger impact for children of color (see chart). Congress also expanded the EITC for 17 million low-income younger workers and others without dependents for 2021.

Congress must not allow the new CTC and EITC changes to expire, forcing millions of workers and families below the poverty line next year.

# **Background documents**

• Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and Child Tax Credit (CTC) Policy Overview

## **HOUSE and SENATE Requests**

Will you urge congressional leaders to make the EITC and CTC expansions permanent this year?

#### Leave behinds:

• <u>Tax (Child Tax Credit and EITC) Request</u>

# **Key Global Poverty Request**

# The U.S. must raise its hand for global education with a bold \$1 billion pledge for GPE

As the only international fund of its kind, GPE has spent nearly 20 years helping governments invest in innovative solutions to get all children in school and learning. Its track record speaks for itself: Since 2002, 160 million more children have attended school with GPE support. The education crisis brought on by COVID-19 threatens the historic progress made by communities globally to get millions more children in school.

To build on its track record of success, GPE and its partners have a bold plan to support up to 90 lower-income countries and territories in transforming their education systems. Countries themselves provide the overwhelming majority of education financing — with the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) bringing together international donors to fill key remaining gaps. At the GPE replenishment conference in July, we call on the White House to make a \$ 1 billion five-year commitment. At this critical moment in global history, a bold pledge will show that the U.S. is committed to working hand-in-hand with the global community to ensure every child can achieve their dreams and reach their potential.

# **Background Documents:**

• Global Partnership for Education Policy Overview

### **HOUSE Requests**:

 Will you co-sponsor a bipartisan resolution (H.Res.225) led by Reps. Meng, Fitzpatrick, and Quigley in support of the GPE replenishment? Also, will you join Reps. Kilmer and Fitzpatrick on a letter to the Biden Administration calling for \$1 billion over 5 years for GPE?

## Leave behinds:

- Bipartisan resolution in support of GPE replenishment (H.Res.225)
- <u>Kilmer/Fitzpatrick letter to Biden Administration calling for \$1 billion pledge to GPE</u>

# **SENATE Request:**

• Will you co-sponsor a bipartisan resolution (S.Res.240) led by Sens. Booker and Rubio in support of the GPE replenishment?

## **Leave behinds**

• Bipartisan resolution in support of GPE replenishment (S.Res.240)

# **Additional SENATE Global Poverty Request**

The U.S. must support critical funding for anti-poverty programs in the fiscal year 2022 appropriations bill

Every year, Congress decides how to spend the money in the U.S. federal budget. The COVID-19 pandemic adds additional urgency to this critical work. RESULTS advocates helped <u>secure strong investments</u> in Gavi and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria during COVID-19 relief negotiations – but more must be done. The World Bank estimates that over <u>150 million</u> additional people could be driven into extreme poverty by the pandemic and its secondary impacts and years of progress on TB and other global health gains <u>are at risk</u>. **RESULTS urges our lawmakers to support issues that build the foundation to end poverty – health, education, and economic opportunity.** 

# **Background documents:**

- USAID Tuberculosis Policy Overview
- <u>USAID Nutrition Policy Overview</u>
- Global Partnership for Education Policy Overview

## **SENATE Requests:**

- Will you please support the following programs and funding levels in your fiscal year 2022 submission to the State and Foreign Operations Subcommittee of Appropriations (Sens. Coons and Graham)?
  - o \$1 billion for USAID Tuberculosis
  - o \$300 million for USAID Nutrition
  - \$150 million for the Global Partnership for Education
- Will you please sign on to the bipartisan Dear Colleague letter led by Sens. Shaheen and Collins in support of robust funding for USAID Maternal and Child Health?
- Will you please sign on to the bipartisan Dear Colleague letter led by Sens. Brown and Young in support of robust funding for USAID Tuberculosis programs?

# **Leave behinds**

- <u>FY22 Tuberculosis Appropriations Memo</u>
- Bipartisan Dear Colleague letter in support of robust USAID TB funding
- FY22 USAID Nutrition Appropriations Memo
- <u>Bipartisan Dear Colleague Letter in support of robust USAID nutrition and maternal and child health funding</u>
- FY22 Global Partnership for Education Appropriations Memo