

The Results logo consists of a white speech bubble with a tail pointing towards the bottom-left corner. Inside the bubble, the word "results" is written in a bold, lowercase, sans-serif font.

results

RESULTS Media: Global Poverty and COVID-19 Response

March 27, 2020 – September 15, 2020

Media on global poverty and COVID-19 response from March 27 – September 15, 2020

#	State	Article	Outlet	Media Type
<u>Go to - California Media</u>				
1	CA	Everyone needs access to healthcare	Santa Maria Times	Letter to the editor
2	CA	Gains in global health are threatened by COVID-19	East Bay Times	Letter to the editor
3	CA	Global problems must be fought globally	The Post-Star	Letter to the editor
4	CA	Pass COVID global relief bill quickly	Santa Maria Times	Letter to the editor
5	CA	Break the Stalemate in Congress over COVID Relief	Castro Valley Forum	Letter to the editor
<u>Go to - Connecticut Media</u>				
6	CT	To end this global pandemic, we need a global strategy	Danbury News Times	Op-ed
7	CT	To end this global pandemic, we need a global strategy	Torrington Register Citizen	Op-ed
8	CT	To end this global pandemic, we need a global strategy	New Haven Register	Op-ed

9	CT	To end this global pandemic, we need a global strategy	Connecticut Post	Op-ed
10	CT	To end this global pandemic, we need a global strategy	Norwalk Hour	Op-ed
11	CT	To end this global pandemic, we need a global strategy	Greenwich Time	Op-ed
12	CT	To end this global pandemic, we need a global strategy	Stamford Advocate	Op-ed
13	CT	Break the stalemate	Danbury News Times	Letter to the editor
14	CT	Break the stalemate	Torrington Register Citizen	Letter to the editor
15	CT	Break the stalemate	New Haven Register	Letter to the editor
16	CT	Break the stalemate	Norwalk Hour	Letter to the editor
17	CT	Break the stalemate	Greenwich Time	Letter to the editor
18	CT	Break the stalemate	Stamford Advocate	Letter to the editor
19	CT	Break the stalemate	Connecticut Post	Letter to the editor
<u>Go to - Delaware Media</u>				
20	DE	We must be a global leader in COVID-19 fight	News Journal	Letter to the editor
<u>Go to - Florida Media</u>				

21	FL	We must help the globe	Tampa Bay Times	Letter to the editor
22	FL	The United States must work to improve national, global health	St. Augustine Record	Letter to the editor
<u>Go to - Georgia Media</u>				
23	GA	Fighting COVID-19 Must Be Done on a Global Scale	AJC	Letter to the editor
<u>Go to - Iowa Media</u>				
24	IA	Global challenges require a global response	Iowa City Press-Citizen	Letter to the editor
<u>Go to - Idaho Media</u>				
25	ID	Global Health	Idaho Statesman	Letter to the editor
26	ID	Together	Idaho Press	Letter to the editor
27	ID	Border states	Idaho Press	Letter to the editor
28	ID	Coordinated opening	Idaho Statesman	Letter to the editor
<u>Go to - Illinois Media</u>				
29	IL	Pass a package	The Southern Illinoisan	Letter to the editor
<u>Go to - Indiana Media</u>				
30	IN	A global pandemic requires a global response	The Republic	Letter to the editor

31	IN	Local lawmakers should support global health	Johnson County Daily Journal	Letter to the editor
32	IN	Consider lasting effects of COVID--19 worldwide	The Star Press	Letter to the editor
33	IN	Congress, White House must fight COVID-19 abroad	The Times (Hamilton County)	Letter to the editor

Go to - Kansas Media

34	KS	Students advocate for International Poverty relief with RESULTS	Kansas State Collegian	News article or feature
35	KS	Pandemic Partnerships	Johnson County Gazette	News article or feature
36	KS	U.S. must lead global response	The Garden City Telegram	Letter to the editor
37	KS	Must lead global response	The Hutchinson News	Letter to the editor
38	KS	Letter to the editor: U.S. must lead global response	The Butler County Times-Gazette	Letter to the editor
39	KS	It's time for Congress to Act	Topeka Capitol Journal	Letter to the editor

Go to - Massachusetts Media

40	MA	Help those who most need it	The Berkshire Eagle	Letter to the editor
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41	MA	Congress needs to approve more resources to avoid evictions, foreclosures	Herald News	Letter to the editor
42	MA	We must stand with those on the margins	The Berkshire Eagle	Letter to the editor
43	MA	Pandemic response requires global approach	The Berkshire Eagle	Letter to the editor
44	MA	Global solution for global pandemic	Berkshire Eagle	Letter to the editor
45	MA	Help women, children survive world pandemic	Berkshire Eagle	Letter to the editor
46	MA	Global Challenges require support within a global community	Berkshire Eagle	Letter to the editor
47	MA	We need a bold COVID relief package now	The Berkshire Eagle	Letter to the editor
<u>Go to - Maryland Media</u>				
48	MD	Viewpoint: Global Health is a Global Responsibility - Calling for Greater Solidarity	Johns Hopkins University	News article or feature
49	MD	Cutting Foreign Aid Now Would Be a Bad Move	John Hopkins School of Public Health	News article or feature

50	MD	U.S. should be helping developing countries deal with pandemic	Baltimore Sun	Letter to the editor
<u>Go to - Maine Media</u>				
51	ME	Global challenges take a global response	Portland Press Herald	Letter to the editor
<u>Go to - Minnesota Media</u>				
52	MN	Urge Senate to pass HEROES Act	Duluth News Tribune	Letter to the editor
<u>Go to - Missouri Media</u>				
53	MO	America should act now to end global disease	Columbia Missourian	Op-ed
54	MO	Now is time for our legislators to support vaccination programs	Missourian	Letter to the editor
55	MO	Showing love and kindness	St. Louis Jewish Light	Letter to the editor
56	MO	In Support Of An International Relief Package	Webster-Kirkwood Times	Letter to the editor
57	MO	Reach further	Kansas City Star	Letter to the editor
58	MO	U.S. should join global fight against pandemic	Columbia Missourian	Letter to the editor

59	MO	Global response is needed to fight COVID-19	St. Louis Jewish Light	Letter to the editor
60	MO	Global pandemic needs global response	The Joplin Globe	Letter to the editor
61	MO	We need a global effort to fight COVID-19	Columbia Missourian	Letter to the editor
62	MO	Pandemic requires global response	The Joplin Globe	Letter to the editor
63	MO	Any pandemic-relief bill must also help poor countries	St. Louis Post-Dispatch	Letter to the editor
64	MO	Any pandemic bill must have global component	St. Louis Post Dispatch	Letter to the editor
<u>Go to - Mississippi Media</u>				
65	MS	Mississippi is interlinked in this global world: Let's do our part	Clarion Ledger	Op-ed
<u>Go to - Montana Media</u>				
66	MT	Use voice to urge Congress to help others	The Missoulian	Letter to the editor
67	MT	Don't forget about deaths from AIDS, TB and malaria	Missoulian	Letter to the editor
68	MT	Do your part to make things better	The Missoulian	Letter to the editor

69	MT	Senate leaders must take action now	Missoulian	Letter to the editor
<u>Go to - North Carolina Media</u>				
70	NC	Developing Nations	The News & Observer	Letter to the editor
71	NC	Solving global challenges	Asheville Citizen-Times	Letter to the editor
72	NC	RESULTS group works to end poverty	Asheville Citizen-Times	Letter to the editor
73	NC	Let's not make regrettable choices	Asheville Citizen Times	Letter to the editor
74	NC	A global response	The News & Observer	Letter to the editor
75	NC	We need leaders who lead	Asheville Citizen Times	Letter to the editor
76	NC	Anti-poverty bias	Asheville Citizen-Times	Letter to the editor
77	NC	Global response to COVID can't wait	The Times News	Letter to the editor
<u>Go to - Nebraska Media</u>				
78	NE	Child Vaccinations Vital	Omaha World Herald	Letter to the editor

79	NE	Address Global Health Needs	Omaha World Herald	Letter to the editor
<u>Go to - New Mexico Media</u>				
80	NM	Global is Local	Albuquerque Journal	Letter to the editor
<u>Go to - Oregon Media</u>				
81	OR	Even more stimulation	Eugene Weekly	Letter to the editor
82	OR	Think globally, act federally	The Times	Letter to the editor
83	PA	We must fight infectious disease globally	Tribune-Review	Letter to the editor
<u>Go to - Pennsylvania Media</u>				
84	PA	Global response	Pittsburgh Post-Gazette	Letter to the editor
85	PA	U.S. should think globally in response to coronavirus	Reading Eagle	Letter to the editor
86	PA	Global partnership needed on coronavirus	Pittsburgh Tribune	Letter to the editor
87	PA	Unclear future for 2020 graduates	Pittsburgh Post-Gazette	Letter to the editor
88	PA	Vaccine aid for developing countries	Pittsburgh Tribune	Letter to the editor

89	PA	America loses lead on global health	Chestnut Hill Local	Letter to the editor
<u>Go to - South Carolina Media</u>				
90	SC	Why US cannot ignore global effects of coronavirus pandemic	Greenville News	Letter to the editor
91	SC	U.S. Senate must deliver a global pandemic response	Post and Courier	Op-ed
92	SC	Global disease impact	Post and Courier	Letter to the editor
<u>Go to - Texas Media</u>				
93	TX	Help low-income countries	Dallas Morning News	Letter to the editor
94	TX	Vaccine quest must be global	Dallas Morning News	Letter to the editor
95	TX	Global pandemic needs global response	Palestine Herald-Press	Editorial
96	TX	Global health our obligation	Dallas Morning News	Letter to the editor
97	TX	Supporters of the Gavi vaccine	Dallas Morning News	Letter to the editor
98	TX	World Hunger	Houston Chronicle	Letter to the editor
99	TX	National security at stake	Dallas Morning News	Letter to the editor

100	TX	Cornyn, Senate should pass a relief package	Austin American Statesman	Letter to the editor
101	TX	Commit to fighting COVID-19	Dallas Morning News	Letter to the editor
<u>Go to - Utah Media</u>				
102	UT	A post-pandemic world should deliver a new future for capitalism	Deseret News	Op-ed
103	UT	Circling the wagons makes no sense in a global pandemic	Salt Lake Tribune	Op-ed
104	UT	There can't be economic recovery while the pandemic continues	Salt Lake Tribune	Letter to the editor
105	UT	The Senate should focus on aiding global initiatives	Deseret News	Letter to the editor
106	UT	We must see that we are at war.	Salt Lake Tribune	Letter to the editor
<u>Go to - Washington Media</u>				
107	WA	Do your part in the fight against malaria	Seattle Times	Letter to the editor
108	WA	Corona Virus: Global Problem	The Seattle Times	Letter to the editor
109	WA	Response must be Global	The Olympian	Letter to the editor

110	WA	Think globally in COVID response	Kitsap Sun	Letter to the editor
111	WA	U.S. foreign aid efforts on health should continue	Everett Herald	Letter to the editor
112	WA	Leaders in Congress must hear our voices	Bainbridge Island Review	Letter to the editor
113	WA	Pandemic: Congress Must Provide Global Aid	The News Tribune (Tacoma)	Letter to the editor
114	WA	It is time to fill the cracks that millions of Americans are falling through	Tacoma Weekly	Op-ed
115	WA	Mr. Trump and the WHO	The Olympian	Letter to the editor
116	WA	COVID-19 health crisis	Snohomish Tribune	Letter to the editor
117	WA	Time to call	The Daily News	Letter to the editor
118	WA	Don't forget to vote by Tuesday	Kitsap Sun	Letter to the editor
119	WA	Also on guard against tuberculosis	Kitsap Sun	Letter to the editor
120	WA	We Can't Give Up on the Fight Against Global Poverty	Kitsap Sun	Letter to the editor
121	WA	Congress needs to fund global distribution of Covid vaccine	Everett Herald	Letter to the editor

Go to - Wisconsin Media

122	WI	We can save lives by pushing for congressional action	Capital Times	Letter to the editor
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Go to - West Virginia Media

123	WV	Congress needs to act now	Charleston Gazette-Mail	Op-ed
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Go to - Wyoming Media

124	WY	We need to address virus pandemic both here, abroad	Wyoming Tribune Eagle	Letter to the editor
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Everyone needs access to healthcare

May 7, 2020

In this time of uncertainty, we're all trying to cope with the coronavirus pandemic. And the risks are only magnified for people around the world experiencing poverty, who have limited access to health services, or who live in a place where there are other ongoing global health emergencies, like tuberculosis or malnutrition.

As we work to combat COVID-19 at home, we also need a strong global response that honors the needs and human rights of people in poverty. International partnerships like the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, provide great examples of how to move forward, together.

Congress must prioritize global health systems, alongside the domestic response. We cannot leave those isolated by stigma, geography, or poverty on the sidelines of the COVID-19 response.

I hope that Rep. Salud Carbajal and Sens. Diane Feinstein and Kamala Harris will work together with their colleagues in Congress to ensure that people who are disenfranchised or pushed to the margins of society do not bear the brunt of this pandemic.

Dorothy Monza

https://santamariatimes.com/opinion/letters/letters-to-the-editor-one-vote-does-make-a-difference-old-town-market-and-what/article_dc327079-5958-5aae-ba98-50e2eb6a5873.html

EAST BAY TIMES

Gains in global health are threatened by COVID-19

May 8, 2020

I am gravely concerned that the COVID-19 relief bills will not provide enough funding to adequately maintain existing U.S.-supported international health programs.

The Phase 4 emergency response bill, for a global pandemic, is currently neglecting the rest of the globe. The virus is already hindering international health programs in which the U.S. has provided leadership for decades in the poorest countries.

Jack Guy of CNN reported that new research predicts the impact of this pandemic could result in an increase of 1.4 million more tuberculosis deaths and 6.3 million additional cases of TB by 2025.

GAVI, The Vaccine Alliance reported that at least 13.5 million have missed their vaccinations.

This year Sens. Kamala Harris and Dianne Feinstein have supported global health and education programs and organizations. I strongly urge the senators to request substantial global funding into the Phase 4 Coronavirus Emergency Response Bill.

Rick Narvaez

<https://www.eastbaytimes.com/2020/05/20/letter-gains-in-global-health-are-threatened-by-covid-19/>



Global problems must be fought globally

May 24, 2020

It is crazy that the House of Representatives included no supplemental funding for global impacts of the coronavirus. I appreciate Congresswoman Stefanik's past support for the global fund to fight AIDS, TB and malaria and want her and all the representatives to know that, in dozens of countries, many kids are already missing out on lifesaving vaccines; it's getting harder to access treatment for diseases like tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS. Food insecurity and starvation are rising fast.

Global challenges aren't solved in isolation — they're solved in partnership. Whether it's COVID-19 or other ongoing global health emergencies, we need a strong response from Congress here and around the world.

I'm counting on our senators to make sure our country does its part in a global response to this global pandemic.

Susan Oehser

https://poststar.com/opinion/letters/letter-to-the-editor-global-problems-must-be-fought-globally/article_54e182b5-5c09-5094-9e8f-6326f9f1cb93.html



Pass COVID global relief bill quickly

August 11, 2020

As of Aug. 7, there were 538,416 COVID-19 cases in California according to [emergencyslo.org](https://www.emergencyslo.org). This pandemic is taking a large toll on not only our city, state, and country, but the entire world. A global pandemic requires a global response. Congressional leaders and the White House don't seem to get that.

The U.S. must support lower-income countries to deal with the immediate crisis and to strengthen healthcare systems in the long run. In dozens of countries, the pandemic is affecting people directly as well as undermining years of progress in fighting other diseases.

Many kids are already missing out on life-saving vaccines and it's getting harder to access treatment for diseases like tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS. Food insecurity and starvation are also rising fast.

Global challenges aren't solved in isolation. Whether it's COVID-19 or other ongoing global health emergencies, we need a strong response from Congress here and around the world. I'm counting on Congress and the White House to break the current stalemate and quickly pass a COVID-19 relief bill that includes \$20 billion for the global response to the pandemic.

Dorothy Monza

https://santamariatimes.com/opinion/letters/letters-to-the-editor-looking-for-solutions-pass-covid-global-relief-bill-quickly-campaigning-not/article_16cccbb9-4f96-5ff5-955b-05efef06d75d.html

Break the Stalemate in Congress

August 26, 2020

A global pandemic requires a global response. Congress and the White House are Indifferent to the world's cry for relief. The U.S. must support low-income countries to deal with the immediate crisis and to strengthen healthcare systems. About 80 percent of tuberculosis, HIV, and malaria programs world-wide have reported disruptions in services.

Public health experts warn the coronavirus is likely to set back the years of painstaking progress against TB, HIV, and malaria. Many kids are already missing out on life-saving vaccines. Food insecurity and starvation are also rising fast in Africa and Asia due to severe lockdowns. Whether it's COVID-19 or other ongoing global health emergencies, we need a strong response from Congress here and around the world. Our allies include Sen. Feinstein and Sen. Harris, who support global responses and the Global Fund's vaccine programs.

I'm counting on Congress and the White House to break the current stalemate and pass an emergency response package that includes no less than \$20 billion for international development, including \$4 billion for the Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB, and Malaria, \$4 billion for Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, and \$2 billion for anti-hunger relief. We must act now.

Pat Payne

https://0201.nccdn.net/4_2/000/000/076/de9/cvf-08-26-20-issue.pdf



To end this global pandemic, we need a global strategy

July 2, 2020

The United States has been a leader in the fight against extreme poverty globally. We've made investments in building clinics, training nurses and health aides, nutrition, innovations in medicine and vaccines, malaria netting, and more, to put an end to the epidemics of AIDS, malaria, and TB, and to put an end to 15,000 children 4 years old and under dying every day from starvation and diseases we have cures for. Tending to the health of these countries has resulted in their being strong trade partners, for every dollar we've invested we've gotten \$3 back in trade, simultaneously enabling them to be stronger defense allies. Because of these investments, Ebola was able to be contained in the countries where the epidemic spiked.

I am a citizen lobbyist with the anti-poverty movement RESULTS, with a presence in all 50 states and in countries around the world. This week, 800 of us have gathered for the annual RESULTS International Conference, meeting with members of Congress to sound the alarm about the massive disruptions in all these programs, 85 percent in HIV programs, 78 percent in TB programs. It is urgent to protect the progress we have made, and fundamental to overcoming this pandemic that we create a global strategy.

A global strategy is needed to address a global pandemic. The global economy will shrink by 5.2 percent this year, job loss alone will drive 70 million additional people into extreme poverty. 80 million babies under age 1 are so far missing their basic immunizations, as families are staying at home. This risks epidemics of cholera, yellow fever, meningitis, measles, Ebola, diseases that were under relative control before COVID. Health workers who deliver services to remote areas, the majority of whom are volunteers, need PPE, medical equipment and COVID training if they are to distribute medicines or continue to identify the missing millions of TB-infected.

TB is the largest killer, an epidemic that is out of control. Before COVID, 9 million people got sick with TB every year, that number is projected to increase by 6.8 million. Before COVID, 1.6 million people died of TB yearly, that number could double this year. Compare the 30 days it takes many to get through COVID, with the 21/2 year course of medications that cause chemotherapy-like symptoms, nausea, migraines, weakness, that can result in neurological damage and deafness, that it takes to treat multi-drug resistant TB (MDRTB) in anyone infected. One out of three of us carry the TB bacterium in our bodies, which can activate anytime in our lives that our immunology is compromised; think rampant diabetes, asthma, obesity, and you begin to get the peril of the TB epidemic spiking in the United States.

With COVID, the task has increased in scale from fighting poverty, to saving the world, saving our children, currently living in a catastrophe, from perpetually living in catastrophe.

The goal of getting through this is not to go back to the way things were. The massive number of people supporting protests in the streets is a fraction of the scale of the movement, with supporters staying at home due to COVID. It is undeniable that the systems we have designed are based on a belief of "us and them," with the "us" getting the goods at the expense of the "them." If any of the investments and efforts we make to overcome this pandemic are to work, there has to be a calling out of the falseness of that belief: All of our cases are caused by an "us and them" mind-think. Racism and all of our "isms" are based on an "us and them" mind-think, and the deadlock rendering Congress ineffective is sourced in an "us and them" mind-think.

There is no "us and them," there is only an "us." Only one human family. God only made one human race; nature only evolved one human race. That we talk about different races is the result of a construct white men made up to hold themselves as righteous in their immoral oppression and cruelty to people of a different skin color. We can't be making COVID relief packages that buy into that delusion, that include "us" and not "them" and that is what the original House Heroes Proposal did. It ignored "them." Them who make up half of our export trade. Them who are our allies. Them who are hungry. Them who are sick. Them whose COVID is the same as our COVID, one that knows no boundaries.

Please contact your representative, Jim Himes, John Larson, Jahana Hayes, Rosa DeLauro or Joe Courtney, and U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal and U.S. Sen. Chris Murphy, in Connecticut, spread the word to your friends in other states to contact theirs, urging them to ensure the United States includes at least \$20 billion, (which represents less than 1 percent of the monies being discussed) in the next relief package for a global COVID-19 response.

In the Senate, to support S.3829 the Global Health Security and Diplomacy Act of 2020, put out by Sen. James Risch (R-Idaho) and our own Chris Murphy, a bill to advance the global health security and diplomacy objectives of the United States.

Stamford resident Sandra Eagle, a psychotherapist with a private practice in Greenwich, is a member of Coastal Connecticut chapter of RESULTS, (www.results.org).

<https://www.newstimes.com/opinion/article/Opinion-To-end-this-global-pandemic-we-need-a-15382936.php>

THE REGISTER CITIZEN

To end this global pandemic, we need a global strategy

July 2, 2020

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<https://www.registercitizen.com/opinion/article/Opinion-To-end-this-global-pandemic-we-need-a-15382936.php>

NEW HAVEN REGISTER

To end this global pandemic, we need a global strategy

July 2, 2020

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To end this global pandemic, we need a global strategy

July 2, 2020

The United States has been a leader in the fight against extreme poverty globally. We've made investments in building clinics, training nurses and health aides, nutrition, innovations in medicine and vaccines, malaria netting, and more, to put an end to the epidemics of AIDS, malaria, and TB, and to put an end to 15,000 children 4 years old and under dying every day from starvation and diseases we have cures for. Tending to the health of these countries has resulted in their being strong trade partners, for every dollar we've invested we've gotten \$3 back in trade, simultaneously enabling them to be stronger defense allies. Because of these investments, Ebola was able to be contained in the countries where the epidemic spiked.

I am a citizen lobbyist with the anti-poverty movement RESULTS, with a presence in all 50 states and in countries around the world. This week, 800 of us have gathered for the annual RESULTS International Conference, meeting with members of Congress to sound the alarm about the massive disruptions in all these programs, 85 percent in HIV programs, 78 percent in TB programs. It is urgent to protect the progress we have made, and fundamental to overcoming this pandemic that we create a global strategy.

A global strategy is needed to address a global pandemic. The global economy will shrink by 5.2 percent this year, job loss alone will drive 70 million additional people into extreme poverty. 80 million babies under age 1 are so far missing their basic immunizations, as families are staying at home. This risks epidemics of cholera, yellow fever, meningitis, measles, Ebola, diseases that were under relative control before COVID. Health workers who deliver services to remote areas, the majority of

whom are volunteers, need PPE, medical equipment and COVID training if they are to distribute medicines or continue to identify the missing millions of TB-infected.

TB is the largest killer, an epidemic that is out of control. Before COVID, 9 million people got sick with TB every year, that number is projected to increase by 6.8 million. Before COVID, 1.6 million people died of TB yearly, that number could double this year. Compare the 30 days it takes many to get through COVID, with the 21/2 year course of medications that cause chemotherapy-like symptoms, nausea, migraines, weakness, that can result in neurological damage and deafness, that it takes to treat multi-drug resistant TB (MDRTB) in anyone infected. One out of three of us carry the TB bacterium in our bodies, which can activate anytime in our lives that our immunology is compromised; think rampant diabetes, asthma, obesity, and you begin to get the peril of the TB epidemic spiking in the United States.

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THE HOUR

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Break the stalemate

September 10, 2020

As Rep. Rosa DeLauro pointed out in her op-ed, [Senate needs to act to help education](#), families and school districts struggling to get kids back to school need Congress to get back to work on a relief bill.

As much as schools need funding for teachers, technology and PPE to restart, there is another stumbling block to education for the nation's poorest children. One of the most prominent obstacles hindering the child's learning process is on the rise: hunger. With more than 30 million Americans unemployed, people are being forced to choose between rent and groceries. Congress needs to act now to boost SNAP benefits so families can put enough food on the table for all who need it.

The problems of U.S. children are multiplied for the world's poorest children, who have been left out of previous COVID-19 aid packages. Global hunger and malnutrition could double as a result of the pandemic. Projections are that globally 80 million children could miss vaccinations, dramatically increasing under age 5 deaths from preventable diseases. In developing countries, which were already facing a learning crisis before the pandemic, 710 million children are cut off from schools.

Congress left D.C. for a long August recess telling millions of struggling and suffering children to wait. Where is their urgency? I call on Rep. Himes and Sens. Murphy and Blumenthal to break the stalemate in D.C. and pass an emergency response package that addresses the urgent needs of the poorest children, both here and around the world.

Nancy Gardiner

<https://www.newstimes.com/opinion/article/Letter-Break-the-stalemate-15556443.php>

THE REGISTER CITIZEN

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We must be a global leader in COVID-19 fight

July 22, 2020

The House's failure to include any funds in its new bill for the international response to coronavirus is a catastrophic mistake.

In dozens of low-income countries, kids are missing out on lifesaving vaccines, it's getting harder to access treatment for diseases like tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS, and food insecurity and starvation are rising fast. Children are missing school and the food they receive there.

Global challenges are solved in partnership. Whether it's COVID-19 or other ongoing global health emergencies, we need the Senate to allocate funding for the international response in its next relief bill. I'm counting on members of the U.S. Senate — including Pat Toomey and Bob Casey — to make sure our country steps back up and does its part in the global response to this pandemic.

Betsy Teutsch, Philadelphia

<https://www.delawareonline.com/story/opinion/2020/07/22/letters-covid-19-vote-terrible-mistake-keep-up-john-lewis-work/5485144002/>

Tampa Bay Times

We must help the globe

July 16, 2020

It is vital that Congress take a strong and ongoing stand to stop the global spread of COVID-19 and its impact. Decades of progress in global health, education and nutrition are at risk if the United States fails to act in partnership with the rest of the world. In dozens of countries, many kids are already missing out on life-saving vaccines, tuberculosis and AIDS treatments are being disrupted, and food insecurity is rising.

Members of the U.S. House and Senate must recognize the immediate and future legacy of the virus at home and abroad and come to agreement, ignoring any political considerations.

Ken Schatz, Tampa

<https://www.tampabay.com/opinion/2020/07/16/global-health-still-counts-during-coronavirus-letters/>

The United States must work to improve national, global health

August 26, 2020

I read in the Florida Post that our state public health department has been slowly starved for the last decade. This has hampered our ability to respond to the COVID crisis. Similarly, the COVID global pandemic requires an urgent global response. The White House and Congress don't seem to get that – they left D.C. for a long recess, telling millions of suffering people to wait.

In most low-income countries the pandemic is undermining decades of progress in fighting disease. Millions of children are missing out on life-saving vaccines and food insecurity and starvation are rising fast.

When I worked in public health as a U.S. Peace Corps volunteer from 1982-84, I saw firsthand the impact of U.S. support for basic health care including disease prevention. Since then, I have been asking my members of Congress to increase, not decrease our commitment to global health. It is in U.S. interest to help low-income countries deal with the immediate crisis and strengthen healthcare systems in the long run – that's how we prevent future disease outbreaks from becoming deadly global pandemics.

I call on my U.S. Rep. John Rutherford and Senators Marco Rubio and Rick Scott to break the stalemate in D.C. and pass an emergency response package that addresses the urgent needs of Americans and includes no less than \$20 billion for international development. Frontline organizations like the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria; and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, are out of emergency funds and the stakes are great. Will they act? Whether we choose to be, or not, today we are global citizens in the fight to stay healthy.

Jule Meyer

<https://www.staugustine.com/story/opinion/editorials/2020/08/26/u-s-must-invest-measures-improve-national-global-health/5636401002/>



Fighting COVID-19 must be done on a global scale

May 20, 2020

The HEROES Act, the most recent COVID-19 response, passed the House Friday. It has some crucial wins and some gaping holes. It provides \$100 billion in rental assistance, a moratorium on evictions and an increase in SNAP benefits.

However, it has almost no support for low-income countries to address COVID-19 and its fallout. In dozens of countries, kids are already missing out on life-saving vaccines, it's harder to access treatment for tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS, and food insecurity and starvation are rising.

We must practice solidarity with the vulnerable in this emergency, both here and globally.

Global challenges like COVID-19 aren't solved in isolation: they're solved in partnership. Whether it's COVID-19 or other ongoing emergencies, we need a strong response from Congress, both here and worldwide. I'm counting on Senators Perdue and Loeffler to make sure our country does its part in a global response to this global pandemic.

Misty Novitch

<https://pages.pagesuite.com/6/7/678c226c-cf25-4457-b1a4-a02ece7f6a70/page.pdf>

Global challenges require a global response

June 1, 2020

The new bill in the House of Representatives fails to include any international funding to fight coronavirus and its fallout. It's clear that a global pandemic requires a global response, so it now falls to the Senate to make sure that happens.

The U.S. can and must play a role in slowing COVID-19's spread globally and protecting access to other health services and education. We should lean on effective international organizations with proven impact like Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria to aid with the response.

As Congress considers emergency COVID-19 funding, they should include support for lower-income countries to deal with the immediate crisis and to strengthen health care systems in the long run. It's the right thing to do, and the only way we get through this pandemic as a global community.

Sens. (Chuck) Grassley and (Joni) Ernst should write and speak to the Senate leadership to ensure that the COVID-19 emergency response includes support for global health and education in low-income partner nations.

Rachel Pierce

<https://www.press-citizen.com/story/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/2020/06/01/global-challenges-require-global-response/5306798002/>

Idaho Statesman

Global Health

April 8, 2020

If we can “flatten the curve” on coronavirus infection, we may be able to avoid overwhelming our health care system. But for many people living in nations with fewer resources, even a few critical cases will overwhelm their health care system. And there are others with little to no access to health care at all.

As Congress crafts an economic stimulus package, that package must include resources both to support partners in developing nations deal with the immediate crisis and to strengthen their health care systems in the long run.

We already fund USAID programs and multilateral organizations that do this well, including the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria; Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance; and USAID’s bilateral tuberculosis and child survival work.

Congress must prioritize global health systems, alongside the domestic response. People living in poorer settings must not bear the brunt of this pandemic.

Jessica Specht

<https://www.idahostatesman.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/article241870226.html>



Together

April 12, 2020

If we can “flatten the curve” on coronavirus infection, we may be able to avoid overwhelming our healthcare system. But for many people living in nations with fewer resources, even a few critical cases will overwhelm their healthcare system. And there are others with little to no access to healthcare at all.

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We already fund USAID programs and multilateral organizations that do this well, including the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria; Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance; and USAID’s bilateral tuberculosis and child survival work. We should build on these efforts.

Congress must prioritize global health systems, alongside the domestic response, as we move forward together. People living in poorer settings must not bear the brunt of this pandemic.

Jessica Specht

https://www.idahopress.com/opinion/letters_to_editor/letters-to-the-editor-april-12-2020/article_4446c54a-3d9e-54e6-97be-c5e89bef0723.html



Border states

May 20, 2020

As states reopen, they must consider the impact of border states. Without mutual support and coordination, we could see an unmanageable surge in disease, making our weeks of shutdown pointless. As a nation, we must do the same worldwide, to fight COVID19 and to protect our investment in the healthcare of developing nations.

In the latest bill in Washington, the House ignored that this is a global pandemic requiring a global response. It now falls to the Senate to ensure our country does its part in this shared global fight. Such enlightened self-interest keeps us all safer.

The Senate should insist on including support for lower-income countries to deal with the immediate crisis and to strengthen healthcare systems in the long run. It's the right thing to do, and the only way we get through this pandemic as a global community.

Our government already supports international organizations like the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria as well as USAID's programs focused on global health. We should build on these efforts to avoid setbacks in our progress, and I'm counting on Idaho's Senators Risch and Crapo, both in key leadership roles, to help make it happen.

Betsy Dunklin

https://www.idahopress.com/opinion/letters_to_editor/letters-to-the-editor-may-20-2020/article_84c02cfd-8a9f-5014-a5d9-ae504999e6b0.html

Idaho Statesman

Coordinated Opening

May 22, 2020

As states reopen, they must consider the impact of border states. Without mutual support and coordination, we could see an unmanageable surge in disease, making our weeks of shutdown pointless. As a nation, we must do the same worldwide, to fight COVID19 and to protect our investment in the health care of developing nations.

In the latest bill in Washington, the House ignored that this is a global pandemic requiring a global response. It now falls to the Senate to ensure our country does its part in this shared global fight. Such enlightened self-interest keeps us all safer.

The Senate should insist on including support for lower-income countries to deal with the immediate crisis and to strengthen healthcare systems in the long run. It's the right thing to do, and the only way we get through this pandemic as a global community.

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Betsy Dunklin

<https://www.idahostatesman.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/article242928396.html>



Pass a Package

August 12, 2020

The article "In virus talks, Pelosi holds firm while Mnuchin wants a deal" reports continued dissent from our elected officials in Washington. Congressional inaction on COVID-19 relief hurts Americans and also deepens wider global problems as well.

In low-income countries, COVID-19 impacts people in poverty profoundly as it takes lives and undermines years of progress in fighting other diseases. The longer the U.S. withholds support from the worldwide partnership cooperating on global health problems, the longer kids will miss out on life-saving vaccines for killer diseases like measles and polio. Food insecurity and starvation are rising fast, and it's getting harder to access treatment for diseases like tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS.

I urge senators and representatives to come together and pass a COVID-19 relief bill soon that supports lower-income countries to deal with the immediate crisis and to strengthen healthcare systems in the long run.

I'm calling on Sens. Durbin and Duckworth, and Congressmen Bost and Shimkus to break the stalemate and pass an emergency response package that includes no less than \$20 billion for the global response to the pandemic and focuses on vaccines, nutrition, and infectious diseases like HIV/AIDS, TB, and malaria.

Cynthia Changyit Levin

https://thesouthern.com/opinion/letters/voice-of-the-reader-pass-a-package/article_9f102007-f773-57a5-87d2-ab4ec2d7944e.html



A global pandemic requires a global response

June 7, 2020

There is a lot of help in the latest coronavirus bills passed by Congress for which I am most grateful. However, the bills have a gaping hole as they leave out the entire rest of the world with no emergency funding beyond the United States.

I have made frequent visits to a Pediatric AIDS program in Zambia, and I know the circumstance there firsthand. The challenges of another virus especially affect women and children. The problems of HIV, tuberculosis, and malaria only serve to increase vulnerability along with poverty, food insufficiency, and crowding. One has to wonder how the next \$3 trillion bill could forget the rest of the globe. At least 13.5 million children are missing out on lifesaving vaccine.

The number of people facing hunger certainly could double to 265 million by the year's end; maternal /child deaths will increase as will malaria and AIDS deaths. This will nullify the recent progress we have made globally.

Please make sure that your senators get the message loud and clear. The new bill should reflect an international response in slowing COVID-19. Global challenges are not solved in isolation — they should be solved in partnership with others.

Ann Jones

http://www.therepublic.com/2020/06/07/letter_a_global_pandemic_requires_a_global_response/

Local lawmakers should support global health

June 19, 2020

It has been over 100 years since the U.S. has experienced anything like the COVID-19 pandemic. How we react as a nation will say volumes about our character. We have seen how disadvantaged communities have been disproportionately affected by systemic circumstances, such as lack of health care, healthy food availability, housing, etc. This will play out worldwide, as poorer nations with fragile existing health networks are impacted more harshly by the pandemic.

Sadly, global life-saving programs of routine immunizations, TB testing and treatment, malaria prevention measures are being interrupted, during the world's response to the pandemic. These measures have saved millions of lives over decades, orchestrated by international financial support, the U.S. being a major player. The incredible gains made can be wrecked and even lost without adequate funds to build or strengthen the health care systems of these vulnerable communities.

COVID-19 is a global challenge. Our efforts toward eradication of some of the most lethal and crippling diseases must be redoubled globally at the same time we seek a vaccine and treatment for this new coronavirus. During the Ebola outbreak of 2014, there were over 10,000 additional deaths from HIV/AIDS, TB, and malaria, and up to 16,000 additional child deaths from measles, as a million children went without being vaccinated.

COVID-19 is a global problem which requires a global solution.

The House Phase 4 bill has no money to bolster international health programs. Our senators, Sen. Mike Braun and Sen. Todd Young, must make sure the U.S. does its part to respond to the global reach of this pandemic, while increasing support for

global health programs that combat diseases globally. This will secure progress and prevent loss or reversal in the fight against preventable diseases.

It is easy to want only to focus on our extreme circumstances, over 100,000 deaths from COVID-19, but we must remember the millions of lives saved through our international financial commitment. The U.S. has always been the shining example. It is my hope we will continue this roll to support global health.

Diane Lindley

http://www.dailyjournal.net/2020/06/19/letter_local_lawmakers_should_support_global_health/



Consider lasting effects of COVID--19 worldwide

June 20, 2020

As noted by the Star Press in "Sports competition returns to Delaware County for the 1st time in nearly 3 months," it took 86 days for sports (specifically golf) to get back in swing (pun intended) in the Muncie area. But as Indiana finally starts getting back on track, it's important to consider the lasting effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on global health systems.

Reporting of tuberculosis cases in India has plummeted by 80 percent as laboratory capacity and healthcare workers are occupied elsewhere. Kenya only has 155 ICU beds for their 50 million population. Representative Pence, Senator Young and Senator Braun should write and speak to House and Senate leadership to ensure that future COVID-19 emergency response includes support for global health and education in low-income partner nations. Together we can ensure that the global health fight against deadly (but ultimately curable) diseases is a hole in one — not a triple bogey.

Brendan Oliver Bow

<https://www.thestarpress.com/story/opinion/readers/2020/06/20/muncie-letters-editor-june-21/3188572001/>



Congress, White House must fight COVID-19 abroad

August 25, 2020

A global pandemic requires a global response.

The U.S. must support lower-income countries to deal with the immediate crisis and to strengthen healthcare systems in the long run. In dozens of countries, the pandemic is not only impacting people directly, it is undermining years of progress in fighting other diseases. Many kids are already missing out on life-saving vaccines and it's getting harder to access treatment for diseases like tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS. Food insecurity and starvation are also rising fast.

Whether it's COVID-19 or other ongoing global health emergencies, we need a strong response from Congress here and around the world. I'm counting on Congress and the White House to break the current stalemate and pass an emergency response package that includes no less than \$20 billion for the global response to the pandemic and focuses on the following:

- \$4 billion over two years for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
- \$4 billion for Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance
- \$2 billion for anti-hunger efforts, including \$500 million for nutrition

I know that such action matches Hoosier values. We must act now.

Lisa Marchal

<https://thetimes24-7.com/Content/Opinion-Page/Letters-to-the-Editor/Article/Letter-to-the-Editor-Congress-White-House-must-fight-COVID-19-abroad/12/40/66638>



Students advocate for international poverty relief with RESULTS

May 21, 2020

The COVID-19 pandemic shows how connected United States citizens are and how dependent they are on one another. Some Kansas State students knew this long before the pandemic disrupted daily life, which led them to join RESULTS, a bipartisan advocacy group.

Pranav Savanur, junior in biology and president of the Manhattan chapter of RESULTS, became interested in helping people while taking Michael Wesch's cultural anthropology course in the fall of 2018. Savanur said he learned about Paul Farmer and his work in medicine and human rights advocacy and it set Savanur on a path to help others.

Savanur said he always knew he would help people by being a doctor, but this opened new pathways for him. He learned about global health issues and the impact he could make on the world.

While studying abroad in Liverpool, England, Savanur learned about the opportunities offered by RESULTS.

"I applied to it and everything, then attended the conference and met fellow K-State students and other students from across Kansas," Savanur said.

Savanur became a Real Change Fellow and attended the RESULTS conference last summer. This summer, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the annual conference will be online, and an in-person event is planned for February 2021.

RESULTS teaches their advocates to communicate with politicians and create a dialogue around issues related to poverty.

Melissa Bryan, junior in biology, learned about RESULTS through her sorority as a freshman.

"They were able to share their story, and I was in awe at the work they were doing," Bryan said via email. "I felt they brought to light many issues that are very important to all of us, but we do not think about on a daily basis. In an effort to show our representatives that we valued these initiatives, RESULTS led our entire sorority in writing letters to Congress advocating for the Reach Every Mother and Child Act." After that, Bryan trained to become a RESULTS volunteer.

"Earlier this year, I met Pranav as we were both TAs for Intro to Cultural Anthropology," Bryan said. "After some long chats about what we were passionate [about], he had shared with me that he was a RESULTS fellow and I have been working with him since."

Together, Bryan and Savanur are working to create a RESULTS Manhattan and K-State chapter. Currently, RESULTS is not a registered student organization.

"We have more impact as a non-registered Manhattan chapter than a registered K-State chapter," Savanur said. "We have more leverage of bringing in people who are not part of the K-State community."

Savanur said the plan is to register as an independent student organization once they have more members.

Although they don't have many Manhattan or K-State members, the local RESULTS team continues to advocate for policies that end poverty. Savanur and Bryan are passionate about access to housing and health care and how these can help end the poverty cycle.

"I mainly focus on the global side of issues because of my exposure towards my experiences in India and my work experience in the U.K. and Africa," Savanur said. "So, I mainly focus on that, but as the president of RESULTS Manhattan, I also educate people on the domestic part of it."

Savanur has talked to Sen. Pat Roberts about SNAP benefits and other ways of helping low-income families during the pandemic.

“We really want to show constant support towards building SNAP because it will not only help low income houses fund [putting] food on the table — it will also help your economy which is very important right now,” Savanur said. “People in low income families literally spend most of their income for meeting basic needs.”

To promote global health, Bryan advocates for Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. “I feel it is our duty to highlight that these issues matter to constituents,” Bryan said. Bryan and Savanur both said the COVID-19 pandemic highlights the need for extended SNAP benefits and a renters’ holiday.

“Food and shelter are crucial during this crisis and we want to make sure no one has been left behind when delegating aid,” Bryan said. “I feel these issues are quite relevant to K-Staters.”

Savanur said the pandemic also shows how public health and politics are closely related. He cites Rep. Roger Marshall, a doctor and politician currently running for U.S. Senate.

“That’s also a great example of seeing how healthcare and policymaking in politics cannot be separated,” Savanur said.

<https://www.kstatecollegian.com/2020/05/21/students-advocate-for-international-poverty-relief-with-results/?fbclid=IwAR0aTeKgB90NmQvR-ArfEch80wCNTv-1pW1GWirEM-AylJUnV1M1WTYnke4>



Pandemic Partnerships

June 5, 2020

The new COVID-19 bill in Washington failed to include any real international response to COVID-19. This is a huge problem because this pandemic is affecting everyone worldwide.

In dozens of countries, many kids are already missing out on lifesaving vaccines, it's getting harder to access treatment for diseases like tuberculosis and malaria, and food insecurity and starvation are rising fast. The U.S. has supported funding for international relief before, and that shouldn't stop now. Increased funding for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria is a need.

Global challenges are solved with partnerships. Whether it's a pandemic or other ongoing global health crises, we need a strong response from Congress and other leaders around the world. I'm counting on Senators Roberts and Moran to make sure our country does its part in a global response to this global pandemic.

Mercedeh Tavacoli

http://www.jocogazette.com/images/egazpgs_06_05_20_lo_reza.pdf



U.S. must lead global response

June 7, 2020

The new COVID-19 bill in Washington failed to include any real international response to the coronavirus. That's a huge problem because this pandemic is affecting everyone worldwide. As a leader in global health, the United States needs to urgently respond to protect hard-fought gains in global health in low-income countries.

The United States and Congress needs to provide the funding to support countries that are suffering greater detriments because they don't have access to vaccines for malaria, tuberculosis, and HIV/AIDS. People also don't have access to proper nutrition either, which leads to starvation and death.

We have to remember that during this pandemic, all other issues can't be forgotten. We need to strengthen our actions to improve global health and remember that COVID-19 is affecting everyone worldwide. We can't dismiss the international urgency that is needed.

Global challenges are solved with partnerships. Whether it's a pandemic or other ongoing global health crises, we need strong responses from our leaders. I'm counting on Sens. Roberts and Moran to make sure our country does its part in a global response to this global pandemic.

Mercedeh Tavacoli

<https://www.gctelegram.com/opinion/20200607/letter-to-editor-us-must-lead-global-response>

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Global challenges are solved with partnerships. Whether it's a pandemic or other ongoing global health crises, we need strong responses from our leaders. I'm counting on Sens. Roberts and Moran to make sure our country does its part in a global response to this global pandemic.

Mercedeh Tavacoli

<https://www.hutchnews.com/opinion/20200607/letter-to-editor-us-must-lead-global-response>



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Mercedeh Tavacoli

<https://www.butlercountytimesgazette.com/opinion/20200607/letter-to-editor-us-must-lead-global-response>

It's time for Congress to Act

September 3, 2020

There is no deal on the COVID-19 supplemental bill and no clear next steps. Our Congresspeople need to do the right thing: Provide emergency rental assistance, a national moratorium on evictions, an increase in SNAP benefits, research for world-wide health and continue unemployment benefits.

The president's powers are limited in these areas, as it takes Congress to make real these investments in our people and keep families sheltered and safe. Yet the negotiations stopped, and, in turn, President Trump signed executive orders on unemployment benefits of \$400/week (down from \$600/week), a payroll tax holiday, and he said he would consider an eviction moratorium and a deferment of student loan repayment. It is likely there will be legal challenges to his approach as it is far from adequate and not at all clear where the money will come from. Speculation is that it may come from Social Security.

The money in question belongs to the American people. (The fact that American dollars are still being spent on a wall between the US and Mexico seems absurd at this time.)

Finally, the time is NOW. We are obligated to keep the pressure on Congress and the White House to figure this out. Sens. Moran and Roberts, will you please represent us as caring Kansans who appreciate the hardships that have been created for this country and the rest of the world? We are counting on you to do the best right things. Now.

Lila M. Bartel

<https://www.cjonline.com/opinion/20200903/letter-to-editor-itsquos-time-for-congress-to-act>



Help those who most need it

March 30, 2020

As a retired pediatrician living in this community for the last 30 years, I know how seriously we take our responsibilities for the well-being of our neighbors. Now, at this time of heightened concern locally and globally, we need to broaden that responsibility. The risks we all face right now are only further magnified for people in poverty or people cut off from health services.

Strong, resilient health systems around the world become even more important, and even more endangered, in a crisis. Whether it's coronavirus or other ongoing global health emergencies, like tuberculosis or malnutrition, we need a strong global response which honors the needs and human rights of people in poverty.

We have great examples in multilateral partnerships like the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria as well as Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. We cannot leave those isolated by stigma, geography, or poverty on the sidelines.

Congress must prioritize global health systems, alongside the domestic response, as we move forward together. People who are disenfranchised must not bear the brunt of this pandemic. We must move forward in hope and solidarity.

Already, Congressman Neal and Senators Warren and Markey have stepped forward to sign on to the letters supporting full funding for The Global Fund. Please encourage them to continue by supporting funding of Gavi and Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition resolutions.

By joining together as global citizens, we can maintain our humanity.

Leslye Heilig, M.D.,

<https://www.berkshireeagle.com/stories/letter-help-those-who-most-need-it,601136?>

The Herald News

Congress needs to approve more resources to avoid evictions, foreclosures

March 31, 2020

The economic fallout of COVID-19 is huge. Millions of low-wage workers have been laid off, making it virtually impossible to pay the rent or mortgage. This can quickly lead to eviction and homelessness. I am grateful Congress has passed emergency legislation to help people experiencing housing instability and homelessness. However, the crisis is far from over and more action is needed. In the next coronavirus response bill, Congress must pass a national moratorium on evictions and foreclosures and provide substantial resources for emergency rental assistance.

We must also look ahead. Creating a refundable “renters’ tax credit” to help low-income renters cover rising housing costs will give people the financial security to know that when the next crisis comes, we will be ready. I urge our members of Congress to promptly pass measures to help struggling workers and families secure stable housing to get them through this crisis and beyond. Also, the risks we all face right now are only further magnified for people in poverty or people cut off from health services.

Strong, resilient health systems around the world become even more important - and even more endangered - in a crisis. Whether it's coronavirus or other ongoing global health emergencies, like tuberculosis or malnutrition, we need a strong global response which honors the needs and human rights of people in poverty. We have great examples in multilateral partnerships like the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria as well as Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. We cannot leave those isolated by stigma, geography, or poverty on the sidelines.

Congress must prioritize global health systems, alongside the domestic response, as we move forward together. People who are disenfranchised must not bear the brunt of this pandemic. We must move forward in hope and solidarity.

Tina Michael

<https://www.heraldnews.com/opinion/20200331/letter-congress-needs-to-approve-more-resources-to-avoid-evictions-foreclosures>



We must stand with those on the margins

April 20, 2020

As we respond to the tragedy of this pandemic, we know it's also threatening communities facing poverty all around the world. Just as we have seen it racing through our long-term care facilities, it will race through resource poor communities, and especially, refugee camps.

As Congress prepares for the next stage of its coronavirus response, they should include support for lower-income countries to deal with the immediate crisis and to strengthen their health care systems in the long run.

Our government already supports international organizations that do this well, including the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria as well as Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, in addition to U.S. programs focused on global health. We should build on these efforts.

U.S. Rep. Richard Neal, D-Springfield, and U.S. Sens. Warren and Markey, D-Mass., must ensure that, in addition to our domestic response, Phase 4 of the U.S. COVID-19 response includes support for programs on the front lines in low-income nations. Organizations like the Global Fund and Gavi have leaped into action but will need additional support.

If this crisis has taught us anything, it's that we live in a connected world and that what happens "over there" in other nations is our concern. Let's support our neighbors everywhere. This is a global pandemic, and it requires a global response.

Leslye Heilig,

<https://www.berkshireeagle.com/stories/letter-we-must-stand-with-those-on-the-margins,602848>



Pandemic response requires global approach

April 23, 2020

Nearly 400 years ago, John Donne wrote "no man is an island."

Sunday night, the One World concert echoed that message, repeatedly instancing how interconnected we are with everyone around our country and throughout the world. The program also highlighted the greater vulnerability of those living in poverty, especially in low-income countries, where access to essential health services is severely compromised. This population is also at greater risk in the current COVID-19 pandemic because of their inadequate health care systems.

I urge U.S. Rep. Richard Neal, D-Springfield, and U.S. Sens. Elizabeth Warren and Ed Markey, D-Mass., to ensure that Phase 4 of the U.S. COVID-19 response includes support for critical programs in low-income nations as well as at home. We need to increase our support for international organizations, including the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria as well as Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, in addition to U.S. programs focused on global health.

Strengthening health care systems in poverty-stricken countries is good for them and for us. We live in a global world. We cannot afford to make access to health care a zero-sum game.

Mary Rogers

<https://www.berkshireeagle.com/stories/letter-pandemic-response-requires-global-approach,603080>



Global solution for global pandemic

May 15, 2020

The coronavirus pandemic has clearly demonstrated that we are one world and we will only get beyond this pandemic if we function as one world together. As noted by UNICEF this week, without access to routine health care, such as medications for TB and HIV, routine vaccinations and Vitamin A supplementation, the numbers of child and maternal deaths will soar. Since the House left the international response completely out of its bill, it now falls to the Senate to make sure our country has a global response to this global pandemic.

Congress needs to include support for lower-income countries to address the immediate crisis as well as to strengthen healthcare systems for the long run. It is not just the moral thing to do, but the only way we get through this pandemic as a global community.

Our government already supports international organizations that do this, including the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, as well as USAID's programs focused on global health. We should build on these efforts. This is a global pandemic, and it requires a global response.

Leslye Heilig

https://www.berkshireeagle.com/stories/letter-global-solution-for-global-pandemic,604738?fbclid=IwAR182qzwAe5TGlrTE3n-_LflOfOzCTalRj8PW3gOZPjPxHX0n8ecOoDcGQg



Help women, children survive world pandemic

May 15, 2020

It was wonderful to see the numbers of hospitalizations for COVID-19 going down at Berkshire Medical Center and at Fairview Hospital this past week. However, as leader of the Great Barrington chapter of Dining for Women, a national organization which supports women and girls living in extreme poverty around the world, I can't help but question how these women and their children will survive the pandemic. We know the risks are magnified for people experiencing poverty and who have limited access to necessary health services.

Without our help women living on the margins will be pushed further into poverty and many more will die. Food insecurity and reduced vaccination rates will severely affect their children's health and growth. Educational opportunities for them may be lost forever.

The House of Representatives has neglected to include any additional funding for global assistance programs, so our Senators Warren and Markey need to take action and insist that the Senate bill includes funding for international pandemic aid.

Linda Baxter

<https://www.berkshireeagle.com/stories/letter-help-women-children-survive-world-pandemic,604794?>



Global challenges require support within a global community

July 14, 2020

When the Senate reconvenes, it must do what was not done in the House. The next COVID relief package needs to include support for lower-income countries to deal with the immediate crisis and to strengthen health care systems in the long run. It's the right thing to do, and the only way we get through this pandemic as a global community.

According to Dr. Jim Yong Kim, co-founder of Partners in Health, "humility in the face of the virus and solidarity" is what it will take to defeat this pandemic. We must be globally united to face this moment in time.

Our government already supports international organizations like the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance, as well as USAID's programs focused on global child nutrition. We should build on these efforts, and I'm counting on our senators to help make it happen.

Leslye Heilig

https://www.berkshireeagle.com/stories/letter-global-challenges-require-support-within-a-global-community,609205?fbclid=IwAR1YFoiWnKWXU6sZgL9NIOEQr38XK7iAUjEzwp2-gnK_ja8Q0jHDZFr3uyU



Letter: We need a bold COVID-19 relief package now

August 6, 2020

The new coronavirus bill in Washington seems to ignore that this is a global pandemic requiring a global response as well as a bold U.S. relief package. The House response, the HEROES Act, has no money for global relief. The Senate version that has been proposed by the Republican majority has \$3 billion for Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, and \$1 billion for vaccine administration, but neglects the many other international programs, such as The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria; USAID; the WHO; and the World Food Program, to name just a few that need support on a much more robust scale.

It also fails to prevent low-income American renters from falling off the cliff and facing the imminent threat of eviction and homelessness. The House bill provides \$100 billion to help low-income renters pay rent. But we also need an eviction moratorium, something we in Massachusetts have seen extended into October.

This week, we are at a critical moment and must, as constituents, see that our legislators act to prevent a medical, humanitarian and economic crisis from continuing to unfold. I urge you to speak out now and ensure a bold and necessary COVID-19 relief package.

Leslye Heilig

<https://www.berkshireeagle.com/stories/letter-we-need-a-bold-covid-19-relief-package-now,610872>



Global Health is a Global Responsibility – Calling for Greating Solidarity

April 13, 2020

It is stomach-churning to watch influential political figures, including the President of the United States, play into racism and xenophobia as they shirk their responsibility to address global health. The coronavirus outbreak is not one country's fault, but it is everyone's responsibility. World leaders need to act like it.

I applaud the science communicators, health professionals, and politicians who already recognize this. What's especially interesting about this frustrating time is that until the COVID-19 outbreak, Congress was making significant progress and building momentum for global health action. In 2019, two bipartisan resolutions-built support for a bold, multi-year pledge to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria (Smith, 2019). By providing one-third of the Global Fund's resources, the United States was on track to make possible an additional 16 million lives saved by 2023 ("Step up the Fight," n.d.). When health-focused foreign aid makes up less than one percent of the United States budget, it's quite amazing what a difference that fraction of a percent can make in lives saved (McBride, 2018).

So, what happened? As is often the case, when crisis strikes, leaders elected to represent American interests turn inwards and focus only on domestic policy. As conversations over a "Phase Four" stimulus plan for America begin, it is time to resume global health work that can't afford to wait any longer.

Prior to COVID-19, many Americans viewed pandemics as a thing of the past. Now, instead we need to convince panicked authority figures that COVID-19 is the very reason to invest in the international community, not an excuse for nations to close themselves off in regard to global health issues.

As you are reading this article, you're most likely already aware that the global health community is in damage-control mode (Pai, 2020). Over the past twenty years, partnerships like the Global Fund and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, have made significant yet fragile gains in reducing mortality from the biggest infectious disease killers in the world. COVID-19 is a threat to this life-saving work because it infects patients already at risk from other illnesses, and because it also drains funds and political will away from those efforts.

We're still losing 4,000 people every day to Tuberculosis ("Millions More," 2019), and disruption to the global supply chain of essential drugs only worsens a situation that was already "off track," as described by the World Health Organization (Brooks, 2018). Tuberculosis (TB) is just one of dozens of diseases like this! The biggest infectious killers won't wait for COVID-19 to slow down (Pai, 2020).

Don't let their names fool you. Gavi and the Global Fund don't just focus on vaccine-preventable diseases like measles or AIDS, TB, and Malaria - they are a critical piece of the coronavirus puzzle. Both organizations strengthen health infrastructure in developing countries to cope with any pandemic, including COVID-19. The Global Fund announced on March 20 that financial assistance to eleven countries is being used to respond to COVID-19, thanks to new, flexible guidelines ("Global Fund," 2020). Additionally, while a COVID-19 vaccine is at least 18 months away, Gavi is already preparing to distribute such a vaccine and meet demand for the most vulnerable areas ("Gavi Board," 2020).

As a community of students and professionals in global health, we have the power and responsibility to educate our communities and our elected officials. Advocacy actions like phone calls and letters to members of Congress are a great way to capture policy-makers' attention, reminding them of the value of coordinated global health efforts.

Going forward, Congress needs to work with global health experts and advocates, making bipartisan strides not only for COVID-19, but other epidemics as well. Gavi's replenishment conference on June 3 will be a great test if political momentum behind vaccines stands the test ("Global Vaccine Summit," 2020). Only with a big-picture worldview, translated into compassionate, concrete action, can we save lives and get out of this mess into a more resilient future for all.

Yara Changyit-Levin is a co-leader of the RESULTS St. Louis global poverty group. She is the author of teenadvocates.blogspot.com and serves as Advocacy Lead for her local UNICEF Club.

<https://glohea.org/global-health-student-articles/2020/4/12/yara-changyit-levin>

Cutting Foreign Aid Now Would Be a Bad Move

April 14, 2020

As high school students in St. Louis, Missouri, we reaped the benefits of global health security every time we sat in classrooms with our friends.

Now that sense of safety has evaporated, and students everywhere are living the consequences of inadequate health policies. Yet some politicians still refuse to see the value in foreign aid to build global health security.

For several years, we've worked with members of the US Congress to boost support to low- and middle-income countries, for better nutrition, tuberculosis treatments, epidemics response, and vaccines. Yet, with the COVID-19 pandemic, there has never been a moment quite like this in our lifetimes. How do we push ahead with global health efforts, in the face of a pandemic exploding in our own country?

Even before COVID-19, investing in LMICs was a hard sell. In meetings with lawmakers, we've received our share of disbelief: "Wait, tuberculosis is still around?" "But this isn't in our district, right?" At the same time, some [great allies](#) on the House and Senate floors helped ensure that the US contribution to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB, and Malaria received a [16% boost](#) last year instead of President Trump's proposed 29% cut.

Now, with the pandemic all over the news, we don't need to convince donors and policymakers that threats still exist. The new challenge is convincing panicked authority figures tempted to cut foreign aid why that would be a bad move.

The pandemic is already being used as an excuse for [open racism](#) and to close borders, ban immigration, and kill foreign aid. Amid the pandemic's economic upheaval, politicians argue that we cannot afford to "drain" our money out to foreign nations. But COVID-19 is not an excuse to close ourselves off. The pandemic makes it clear that no corner of the world is safe if infectious diseases are

uncontrolled in any part of the world, and there is simply no way to isolate any country or region. We are all in this together, as global citizens.

Furthermore, tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, malaria, and vaccine-preventable diseases like measles [don't take a vacation while COVID-19 is here](#). We're still [losing 4,000 people every day to TB](#), and the global health community is in damage-control mode as resources and political focus is redirected towards coronavirus.

Previously, the US government recognized the power of foreign aid, and invested in averting health catastrophes. The international community rallied at the Global Fund 2019 pledging conference, putting the world on track to [save 16 million lives by 2023](#).

We've seen the benefits of global health mitigation and prevention efforts, such as The Global Fund's efforts to [save over 32 million lives](#) since 2002, and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance's work [vaccinating almost half the world's children](#) against deadly infectious diseases. Their work is even more important in light of coronavirus, as they protect compromised patients already affected by illnesses like malaria or measles. This is no time to withhold support for the most effective worldwide interventions.

It's an understandable instinct to prioritize people within our own borders, especially since COVID-19 is pushing countries into an economic recession. We cannot adequately respond to this pandemic, however, unless we also invest in global health. Gavi's replenishment conference is [scheduled for June 3](#), and we urge every country to make a bold, multi-year pledge for the vaccine alliance. As [Yuval Noah Harari says](#), the COVID-19 pandemic will end, but it will leave us with a choice: between nationalist isolation and global solidarity.

We genuinely hope humanity will lean towards the latter.

Yara Changyit-Levin is a co-leader of the RESULTS St. Louis global poverty group. She is the author of teenadvocates.blogspot.com and serves as advocacy lead for her local UNICEF club. Arushi Katyal is a member of the RESULTS St. Louis global poverty group. Sri Jaladi is the media coordinator of the RESULTS St. Louis global poverty group.

<https://www.globalhealthnow.org/2020-04/cutting-foreign-aid-now-would-be-bad-move>



U.S. should be helping developing countries deal with pandemic

April 16, 2020

In this time of uncertainty, people globally are coping with the harsh impact of the coronavirus pandemic. The health risks are magnified for individuals around the world experiencing poverty or who have limited access to health services. COVID-19 is testing the capacity of the U.S. health care system and it poses a greater threat to communities with fragile health care systems around the world (["Coronavirus deaths surge past 100,000 worldwide as some countries weigh reopening businesses,"](#) April 10).

As Congress prepares for the next stage of its coronavirus response, members should include support for lower-income countries to handle the immediate crisis and to strengthen their health care systems long term. The U.S. government currently supports international organizations that do this well including the Global Fund and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. The President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and other U.S.-based programs have engaged in capacity building where it's needed most.

Thankfully, Sens. Chris Van Hollen and Ben Cardin, and Rep. C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger have given their support to global health policies over the course of several years. Amid COVID-19, we must continue to build on progress made in saving the lives of millions. This is a global pandemic and it requires a global response.

Pamela Parham

<https://www.baltimoresun.com/opinion/readers-respond/bs-ed-rr-coronavirus-us-global-assistance-letter-20200416-myw5tiusmzfslj42eygrg2g5a4-story.html>

Portland Press Herald

Global challenges take a global response

May 18, 2020

The new coronavirus bill in Washington seems to ignore that this is a global pandemic requiring a global response. It now falls to the Senate to make sure our country does its part in this shared global fight.

Congress should include support for lower-income countries to deal with the immediate crisis and to strengthen healthcare systems in the long run. It's the right thing to do, and the only way we get through this pandemic as a global community.

Our government already supports international organizations like the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, as well as USAID's programs focused on global health. We should build on these efforts, and I'm counting on our Senators to help make it happen.

Peggy York

<https://www.pressherald.com/2020/05/18/letter-global-challenges-take-a-global-response/>



Urge Senate to pass the HEROES Act

September 13, 2020

In her column in the News Tribune on Sept. 5, Duluth Central Labor Body President Beth McCuskey was right about the efficacy of and need for the HEROES Act in these times of multiple crises brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. (Labor Leader's View: ["This Labor Day, workers need relief, our support"](#)).

The U.S. House passed the HEROES Act three months ago. The Senate offered a watered-down version but refused to compromise when Speaker Nancy Pelosi offered to meet halfway. Now? Our calls, tweets, emails, and virtual visits are needed to demand action from those who represent us in Congress — especially Sen. Mitch McConnell, since he is the one who decides what the Senate does.

Let's honor Labor Day and the workers of America by reaching out to our elected officials on a daily basis until this relief is passed, reminding them we will be voting in November.

Willie Dickerson

<https://www.duluthnewstribune.com/opinion/letters/6655408-Readers-View-Urge-Senate-to-pass-the-HEROES-Act>



America should act now to end global disease

April 1, 2020

The entire world, including me, thought America was so special. Globally, people associated us with privilege, wealth and opportunity. Why wouldn't they? We were the leaders in business, the innovators in research. And when something terrible happened, we seemed to be the exception.

So, the prospect of a pandemic striking us seemed absurd enough to be out of a science fiction book, because that simply wasn't who we were. Sadly, the coronavirus did not see the America that I did. The virus first came to America around January and infected about 42,000 Americans by March 22.

Now, the streets are empty, the hospitals crowded and overwhelmed, and my school has been indefinitely shut. On the news, they talk about the effects on our economy, the people that have been displaced and the jobs that are lost.

I never thought I would describe America like that. However, as we deal with the economic crisis at home, I worry that world health efforts will be neglected. In this dire time, many argue that it is logical not to drain out our money helping other nations. But will our money "drain out" if less than 1% of our total budget ever did go to world health efforts?

Over the years, the United States' funding has been successful in treating HIV/AIDS, distributing vaccines and funding maternal and child health. Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, has vaccinated about 760 million people in developing countries, saving an estimated 13 million lives.

Due to the U.S. Agency for International Development, developing countries are more equipped to tackle HIV/AIDS. Overall, life expectancy has increased more in

the last 50 years than it did in the past 5,000 years, due in no small part to our leadership.

Our 1%. If we cut funding for global health, its ripple will be felt across the world in more ways than one. Since America has distinguished itself as a leader in world health efforts, it will set an indelible example for other countries.

More nations will cut their funding, and the weight of this mistake will be carried by the next generation of malnourished mothers, unvaccinated children and underfunded health care systems.

Many have argued that global health is not our problem to solve and we must focus on our country. They often use the words “America first.” I think this term is misleading — we are not in a track race where America can be “first” regardless of the condition of other nations.

Rather, we depend on each other’s well-being to ensure our own. Of course, I support our actions in prioritizing relief bills concerning housing and health care for our own citizens. However, the day that America will be truly free of disease is when nowhere in the globe will anyone die of coronavirus, children will be vaccinated, and preventable diseases will be eradicated.

That is the world we must build for our “greatness” to be possible. This is why I urge all of our representatives to support House Resolution 861 (Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance) and Senate Resolution 511 to strengthen health care and provide vaccinations for infants in developing countries.

If we have the infrastructure built, when there finally will be a vaccine for the coronavirus, it will be easily distributed among all nations.

Let’s win the race for global health care together.

Arushi Katyal is a sophomore at John Burroughs School and volunteers with the St. Louis chapter of RESULTS, a grassroots advocacy group working to end hunger and poverty.

https://www.columbiamissourian.com/opinion/guest_commentaries/guest-commentary-america-should-act-now-to-end-global-disease/article_56b232be-72b1-11ea-af52-770dccf7fd68.html

Now is time for our legislators to support vaccination programs

April 9, 2020

Ms. Katyal is spot on in her piece [“America should act now to end global disease,”](#) printed April 1. I, too, am worried about the possibility of the United States and other nations reducing their foreign aid support to global health programs this year in favor of looking inward only to their own needs.

It’s the coordinated efforts of international partnerships like Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, that make it possible to distribute vaccines worldwide at affordable prices. Reducing support at this point would hobble one of our most effective mechanisms to fight COVID-19 and more transmittable diseases.

To distribute future COVID-19 vaccines and avoid the resurgence of other child-killing diseases, we should remain a strong leader and provide \$290 million to Gavi. We should also fully fund the CDC with \$50 million for measles elimination activities and \$176 million for polio eradication programs.

I urge Congresswoman Vicky Hartzler and our senators, Roy Blunt and Josh Hawley, to do all in their power to strengthen our global health activities.

Cynthia Changyit Levin is a U.N. Foundation volunteer for the [Shot@Life](#) Campaign and lives in Town and Country.

https://www.columbiamissourian.com/opinion/letters_to_the_editor/letter-to-the-editor-now-is-time-for-our-legislators-to-support-vaccination-programs/article_12f3872a-79b0-11ea-8a9f-af87f22ec97b.html

Showing love and kindness

April 30, 2020

I appreciated the spirit of the article “Families will grow real memories from virtual, Zoom seders” (April 1 edition). It illustrated the way people in our community are making the best of a difficult situation.

While we are all isolated at home, we are still able to show love and kindness in many ways. We can provide grocery money for people who have lost jobs, make face masks, or call friends who are lonely. We can also take the hopeful action of reaching out to our elected officials from home to make sure we can distribute a coronavirus vaccine once we have one.

Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, is an international organization that helps vaccinate almost half of the world’s children against deadly diseases. They work with vaccine producers and distributors as well as NGO’s, governments, and the private sector to ensure a coordinated distribution worldwide.

To distribute future COVID-19 vaccines and avoid the resurgence of other child-killing diseases, I urge our senators, Roy Blunt and Josh Hawley, to support Gavi by signing Senate Resolution 511. Representatives Lacy Clay and Ann Wagner can do the same by signing onto House Resolution 861.

Cynthia Changyit Levin

https://www.stljewishlight.com/opinion/letters_to_editor/letter-to-the-editor-showing-love-and-kindness/article_e8910f94-8af7-11ea-8927-2fde67f594c5.html



In Support of An International Relief Package

May 19, 2020

While many of us are naturally focused on how coronavirus is affecting our local community as businesses reopen ("Some St. Louis Businesses Reopening," May 18), we shouldn't forget about the global effects of this pandemic.

The House of Representatives seems to be ignoring that this is a global pandemic requiring a global response. The recent coronavirus relief bill from the House included no international aid. It's up to the Senate now to ensure our country joins the worldwide fight.

Congress should include support for lower-income countries to deal with the immediate crisis and strengthen long-term healthcare systems. Representatives Clay and Wagner both recently agreed as they both signed a letter supporting \$1 billion in additional funding for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria to fight coronavirus. Their opinions were not reflected in the relief bill.

Our country already supports international organizations like the Global Fund and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, as well USAID's global health programs. We'll need their reliable, far-reaching systems to save lives and distribute an eventual vaccine. We should build on these efforts with an emergency international relief package of at least \$12 billion. I urge Senators Blunt and Hawley to help make it happen.

Cynthia Changyit Levin

https://www.timesnewspapers.com/webster-kirkwoodtimes/in-support-of-an-international-relief-package/article_9592517e-99f5-11ea-81ca-a77f76df04fb.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=email&utm_campaign=user-share

Reach further

May 20, 2020

Although we see hopeful progress in developing a vaccine, COVID-19 will hurt communities around the world for many months. Sadly, the recent coronavirus relief bill from the House of Representatives included no international aid, as U.S. Global Leadership Coalition president and CEO Liz Schraye points out.

The Senate must now make sure our country joins the worldwide fight. A global pandemic requires a global response. The next relief bill should include support for lower-income countries to deal with the immediate crisis and should strengthen health care systems.

The U.S. already supports international organizations such as the Global Fund and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, as well as the United States Agency for International Development's global health programs. We'll need their reliable, far-reaching systems to save lives and distribute an eventual vaccine. We should build on these efforts with an emergency international relief package of at least \$12 billion.

I urge Sens. Roy Blunt and Josh Hawley to help make it happen.

Cynthia Changyit Levin

<https://www.kansascity.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/article242813216.html>

U.S. should join global fight against pandemic

May 21, 2020

Missouri legislators may be done ("[Shortened by COVID-19, legislative session leaves key issues unresolved](#)," May 15) for the year, but our federal Congress still has plenty to do, especially since the recent coronavirus relief bill from the House of Representatives included no international aid. This is a global pandemic requiring a global response. It's up to the Senate now to ensure our country joins the shared global fight.

Congress should include support for lower-income countries to deal with the immediate crisis and strengthen long-term health care systems. Our country already supports international organizations like the Global Fund and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, as well USAID's global health programs. We'll need their reliable, far-reaching systems to save lives and distribute an eventual vaccine.

We should build on these efforts with an emergency international relief package of at least \$12 billion. I urge Senators Blunt and Hawley to help make it happen.

Cynthia Changyit Levin

https://www.columbiamissourian.com/opinion/letters_to_the_editor/letter-to-the-editor-u-s-should-join-global-fight-against-pandemic/article_b5f451ec-9ab3-11ea-8684-c33eb4ca6777.html

Global response is needed to fight COVID-19

June 4, 2020

In the weeks following Marty Rochester's commentary, "Foreign policy seems foreign to 2020 presidential campaign" (May 7, 2020), the worrying truth behind his observations was revealed even more clearly.

The House of Representatives just passed a phase-four coronavirus bill that includes absolutely no money for international cooperation, despite bipartisan support for global health. This puzzling move leaves Gavi the Vaccine Alliance, which vaccinates half the world's children, in the dust.

A global pandemic surely deserves a global response. Not only is international cooperation the fastest, most effective way to get things back to "normal," but it would be wrong of us to turn our backs on billions of people who are struggling.

It's the Senate's time to shine. I urge Senators Roy Blunt and Josh Hawley to support an emergency international relief package of at least \$12 billion, to save lives around the world.

Yara Changyit-Levin

https://www.stljewishlight.com/opinion/letters_to_editor/letter-to-the-editor-global-response-is-needed-to-fight-covid-19/article_9981d2c8-a684-11ea-8299-47b7ebb1caf6.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=email&utm_campaign=user-share



Global pandemic needs global response

July 21, 2020

The Associated Press article "No end in sight, Congress confronts new virus crisis rescue," (Globe, July 18) tells us how the U.S. Senate struggles with the next COVID-19 relief package but without mention about funding for global coronavirus relief. A global pandemic needs a coordinated global response.

The U.S. has a responsibility to Americans and the rest of the world to engage in the worldwide coordination to end the pandemic threat. We should continue to engage with the World Health Organization. We should also contribute \$12 billion to \$20 billion to global assistance programs such as Gavi and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria in our next COVID-19 relief package to fight COVID-19 and ensure we aren't battling a multi-disease pandemic.

U.S. Sens. Roy Blunt and Josh Hawley and U.S. Rep. Billy Long should stand up for these actions. If not, COVID-19 will continue to spread worldwide, and Americans will remain in danger.

Cynthia Changyit Levin

https://www.joplinglobe.com/opinion/letters_to_the_editor/your-view-letters-discuss-polarization-covid-19-data-masks/article_4b175a2d-6eff-5f80-9cc0-d2560a92f3c3.html



We need a global effort to fight COVID-19

July 21, 2020

I didn't see any reference to funding for a global coordinated effort to fight COVID-19 in the article "No end in sight, Congress confronts new virus crisis rescue" (July 18, Columbia Missourian).

As the U.S. Senate struggles with the next COVID-19 relief package, senators should recall from past global health efforts that diseases like polio, tuberculosis, measles and HIV/AIDS don't respect borders and don't disappear on their own.

The U.S. has a responsibility to Americans and the rest of the world to engage in the worldwide coordination to end the pandemic threat. We should contribute \$12 billion to \$20 billion to global health programs like Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance; and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria in our next COVID-19 relief package to ensure we aren't battling a multi-disease pandemic.

Sens. Roy Blunt and Josh Hawley and Rep. Vicky Hartzler should stand up for these actions. If not, the coronavirus will continue to spread worldwide, and Americans will remain in grave danger.

Cynthia Changyit Levin

https://www.columbiamissourian.com/opinion/letters_to_the_editor/letter-to-the-editor-we-need-a-global-effort-to-fight-covid-19/article_a243ebac-c91c-11ea-a8ec-13e1f5a10b02.html#comments



Pandemic requires global response

August 4, 2020

I agree with Cynthia Changyit Levin's letter "Global pandemic needs global response" (Globe, July 21). Failure to properly fund foreign aid programs could produce catastrophic results. In our interconnected world, if the coronavirus is not defeated in developing countries, it cannot be stopped here at home.

Moreover, global health systems are becoming overburdened as limited resources are being diverted to address COVID-19, resulting in a decline in vaccinations and treatment for other infectious diseases and an increase in malnutrition. In order to halt this crisis, which may have negative domestic consequences, it is critical that Congress provide at least \$20 billion in developmental assistance, including funding for such programs as the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria, the GAVI vaccine alliance, and anti-hunger programs.

Missouri U.S. Sens. Roy Blunt and Josh Hawley should advocate for such funding.

Greg Campbell

https://www.joplinglobe.com/opinion/letters_to_the_editor/your-view-letters-touch-on-history-lewis-pandemic/article_43df3c1d-2edb-5450-a846-3bb837f08ef5.html



Any pandemic-relief bill must also help poor countries

August 14, 2020

Regarding “In virus talks, Pelosi holds firm while Mnuchin wants a deal” (Aug. 10): While President Donald Trump’s executive orders attempt to cobble together benefits for Americans, they neglect wider global problems.

We must pass a relief bill soon that supports lower-income countries to deal with this crisis. In dozens of countries, coronavirus is not only impacting people directly, it is undermining years of progress in fighting other diseases. The longer the U.S. withholds support from the worldwide partnership cooperating on global health problems, the longer kids will miss out on life-saving vaccines for killer diseases like measles and polio.

Food insecurity and starvation are rising fast, and it’s getting harder to access treatment for diseases like tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS. The Senate version of the relief bill included \$4.5 billion of global funding, mainly for vaccine programs.

Sens. Roy Blunt and Josh Hawley, Reps. William Lacy Clay, Ann Wagner and Blaine Luetkemeyer should pressure leadership to break the current stalemate and pass an emergency response package that includes no less than \$20 billion for the global response to the pandemic and focuses on vaccines, nutrition and other infectious diseases.

Cynthia Changyit Levin

https://www.stltoday.com/opinion/mailbag/letter-any-pandemic-relief-bill-must-also-help-poor-countries/article_3bf5a5ec-cd51-58a1-802a-0b03d61354ca.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=email&utm_campaign=user-share

Any pandemic relief bill must have global component

September 8, 2020

A global pandemic requires an urgent global response. The White House and Congress don't seem to get that. Lawmakers left Washington for a long recess, telling millions of people to be patient and that they would work on it.

In many low-income countries, the pandemic is undermining decades of progress in fighting other diseases. Millions of children are missing out on life-saving vaccines and suffer food insecurity. Starvation is rising fast. Global organizations devote to fighting other diseases like AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria are out of emergency funds. The stakes have never been greater.

Members of Congress must break the stalemate in Washington and pass an emergency response package that fully address the urgent needs of Americans and includes no less than \$20 billion for international development. When will congress do something and finally take decisive action? We can't afford to keep waiting.

Amy Morros

Print edition only, September 8, 2020



Mississippi is interlinked in this global world: Let's do our part

July 2, 2020

Mississippians are not as insulated as we once thought.

Saharan dust storms affect our air quality.

The novel coronavirus has put our lives at risk and has all but ground our economy to a halt.

Before COVID-19, about 20% of our state's jobs were supported by international trade. We are interlinked in this global world for better or worse – why not make it better?

I believe Mississippi is trying to make things better.

What makes me most proud are the University Medical Center scientists, who study mosquitoes to better fight malaria; the agriculture research at Mississippi State University that helps developing countries improve their crop yield in the face of droughts; and our incredible churches who donate generously to provide clean water for remote villages and support HIV/AIDS clinics.

We do this alongside supporting the U.S. government's global health and development programs that improve the lives of women and children in places as far-flung as Myanmar or Malawi.

Mississippi's Rep. Michael Guest and Sen. Roger Wicker have both joined letters to House and Senate leadership to include a global response to a global pandemic in any next federal emergency response legislation. This is critical when the World Bank estimates up to 100 million people globally will be pushed into extreme poverty because of the COVID-19 crisis. That means 100 million more people living

on less than \$2 a day while health systems that deliver the basics like immunizations and treatment for severe malnutrition are disrupted for millions of at-risk kids.

Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith and the rest of the House delegation should follow the lead of Wicker and Guest and not sit back when they have the opportunity to do better.

We're going to need other countries to have strong economies to restart ours the way we want. We also know that global partnership is the only way we will truly be rid of this pandemic.

And, well, it's the right thing to do.

Crickett Nicovich of Starkville is the associate director, Policy & Government Affairs for results.org.

<https://www.clarionledger.com/story/opinion/2020/07/02/mississippi-should-support-global-ventures-during-pandemic/5356889002/>



Use voice to urge Congress to help others

April 17, 2020

Thanks for the article about creative high school students fighting the pandemic, assisted by their teachers to make protective equipment. ("[Students fight pandemic — and get real-world experience — by using 3D printers to make face shields](#)" by Johannes Strobel, Missoulian, April 15).

The Missoulian leads by example, finding this important kind of information that works to help us be "smarter tomorrow." We all can loan our voices to help others by asking those who represent us in Congress to include \$100 billion in rent relief, a national moratorium on evictions, and a 15% increase for SNAP (food stamps) in the next relief package. Our calls, letters and virtual visits to our representatives can ensure all Americans are reached with relief and stop the coming increase in homelessness.

In addition, we can ask for \$1 billion in additional funding for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB, and Malaria, which has been assisting low-income countries battle COVID-19. Remember, if we don't battle disease globally, it will come back to hurt us locally!

Willie Dickerson

https://missoulian.com/opinion/letters/use-voice-to-urge-congress-to-help-others/article_89e9ac6f-97eb-5feb-8838-d592091701cf.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=email&utm_campaign=user-share



Don't forget about deaths from AIDS, TB and malaria

May 21, 2020

Instead of focusing on matters other than COVID-19, the Senate should be acting on the House relief package, adding support for GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance, and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria. ("[Deliberative Senate declines to debate more coronavirus aid](#)," by Lisa Mascaro, Missoulian, May 21).

Not only are these two international initiatives battling COVID-19 in over 70 countries, deaths from AIDS, TB and malaria are expected to rise from 10-36% due to focus on coronavirus.

So, call your senators and tell them it is time for action on these global pandemics to protect us locally and provide the relief the House has proposed.

Willie Dickerson

https://missoulian.com/opinion/letters/dont-forget-about-deaths-from-aids-tb-and-malaria/article_06227875-7fd4-5280-838a-c4f613981c60.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=email&utm_campaign=user-share



Do your part to make things better

July 27, 2020

What is Congress doing about making coronavirus testing easier and quicker to help America beat COVID? ('Making coronavirus testing easy, accurate and fast is critical to ending the pandemic - the US response is falling far short' by Zoe McLaren, Missoulian July 24). The House passed the Heroes Act over two months ago, time for the Senate to act, pass the Heroes Act, or at least it's main tenets. The Senate can also add \$20 billion for global initiatives like the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB, and Malaria, along with Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, battling this global pandemic globally in half the countries around the world. Our calls to our members of Congress can help bring about these changes and insure relief from the pandemic. Make a call, write a letter, do your part to make it better.

Willie Dickerson

https://missoulian.com/opinion/letters/do-your-part-to-make-things-better/article_864a203c-6349-55a6-a545-95ecfc80b446.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=email&utm_campaign=user-share



Senate leaders must take action now

August 29, 2020

Sad COVID milestones in Montana, not unlike most parts of our country ("[Montana surpasses 7,000 cases, marks 100th death](#)" by Juliana Sukut, Aug. 28).

Thanks to the House for passing the Heroes Act three months ago that could have prevented the pandemic and its economic fallout from reaching these new heights, but what about the Senate?

We need to call on Senator Daines to ask Senate leader McConnell to bring the Senate back into session and take action to protect Americans from the virus and economic disaster, as Senator Tester and many other senators have been demanding. Our calls, letters, and virtual visits can make a difference, as will our votes in November.

Willie Dickerson

https://missoulian.com/opinion/letters/senate-leaders-must-take-action-now/article_6cd8f83e-afc2-5a50-bde1-88a6b47a7c0b.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=email&utm_campaign=user-share

Developing Nations

April 2, 2020

Regarding "COVID-19 could kill 2,400 in NC and strain available hospital beds, projection model says," ([March 29](#)):

As Congress crafts an economic stimulus package, it must include resources to support partners in developing nations deal with the immediate crisis and strengthen their health care systems. We already fund USAID programs and multilateral organizations that do this well. We should build on these efforts for COVID-19. Congress must prioritize global health systems, alongside the domestic response. People living in poorer settings must not bear the brunt of this pandemic. We all have a responsibility to not leave them behind.

Dilani Logan

<https://www.newsobserver.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/article241644156.html>

Solving global challenges

May 22, 2020

As part of the Asheville chapter of RESULTS, we've worked with NC Reps and Senators over the past 10 years to drive down global poverty, reduce child deaths, and push back disease like HIV/AIDS, TB, and malaria. Now coronavirus has put all of that progress in jeopardy.

Worse, the House of Representatives failed to include any real international response to coronavirus in their new bill. This is a gaping hole.

In dozens of countries, many kids are already missing out on lifesaving vaccines, it's getting harder to access treatment for diseases like tuberculosis and HIV/ AIDS, and food insecurity and starvation are rising fast.

Global challenges aren't solved in isolation they're solved in partnership. Whether it's COVID-19 or other ongoing global health emergencies, we need a strong response from Congress here and around the world. I'm counting on our Senators to make sure our country does its part in a global response to this global pandemic.

Ken Patterson

<http://ashevillecitizentimes.nc.newsmemory.com/?publink=064d43cab>

RESULTS group works to end poverty

July 10, 2020

These are frustrating times reading about the rise in COVID-19 cases in many states including North Carolina. While each of us must take responsibility for ourselves, it is still hard to see the devastating impact this pandemic has had with regard to 40 million job losses across our country and millions of our friends and neighbors who have swelled the ranks of those experiencing housing and food insecurity

It felt very empowering this week to go into action with the Asheville chapter of RESULTS, a grassroots advocacy group working to end poverty domestically and internationally. Following the RESULTS International Conference (via Zoom), our Asheville group brought together fellow RESULTS members from across the state to hold two lobbying meetings (via Zoom) with legislative aides from the offices of Senators Burr and Tillis. The Senators aides were presented data and illustrative stories about real people affected, to support requests to: - Seek \$99.5 billion in the next COVID relief legislation to provide both extended eviction moratoria and emergency rental assistance.

- Provide a refundable renters tax credit to enable low income families access to affordable housing long term.
- Boost the maximum SNAP benefits 15% in the next COVID emergency relief legislation.
- Prioritize assistance to low income people by expanding Earned Income Tax Credit for workers who do not claim dependents and extend the full Child Tax Credit to children in all low-income families.
- Provide \$12-\$20 billion to address the global pandemic. Including emergency assistance to the Global Fund (fighting AIDS, TB and malaria), GAVI (the Vaccine Alliance), and for the hunger/famine/malnutrition crisis.
-

We are hopeful that the legislative aids will encourage Senators Burr and Tillis to help lessen the impact the COVID pandemic has made on our nation's, and the world's, most vulnerable people. Additional requests for support of these measures to the Senators offices will increase the likelihood of them taking action.

Howard Berkowitz

https://ashevillecitizentimes-nc.newsmemory.com/?publink=175f475f2_134372a

A global response

August 23, 2020

It is clear that a global pandemic requires a global response. Congress and the White House have forgotten.

The U.S. must support lower-income countries to address the crisis and strengthen healthcare systems. I lived in Zambia, when I worked for USAID, and Zambia doesn't have the safety nets we do.

In dozens of countries, the pandemic is not only impacting people directly, it is undermining years of progress in fighting diseases. Many kids are missing out on life-saving vaccines and it's getting harder to access treatment for diseases like tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS. Food insecurity and starvation are also rising fast.

Whether it's COVID-19 or other ongoing global health emergencies, we need a strong response from Congress here and around the world.

Lindsay K. Saunders

<https://www.newsobserver.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/article245105510.html>

We need leaders who lead

September 3, 2020

Story after story highlights how COVID-19 is disrupting things – education, work, paying the rent. Globally, it will mean more deaths due to AIDS, tuberculosis, measles, malaria, and malnutrition.

So how could Congress leave DC with no COVID-19 bill while millions in the US and globally suffer? I'm particularly sensitive what's happening in low-income countries given estimates that progress on health could be set back 10-20 years.

We need Congress and the White House to get it together and pass a bill that focuses on the needs of the people. In addition to addressing evictions and rental assistance in the US, Senators Burr and Tillis, and Rep. McHenry should ensure the final bill includes at least \$20 billion to address diseases like AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria, fund Gavi the Vaccine Alliance, and mitigate hunger and malnutrition. We are counting on their leadership to break the deadlock in DC and do what is needed now.

Ken Patterson

https://ashevillecitizentimes-nc.newsmemory.com/?publink=4c7c61acf_13437eb

Anti-poverty bias

September 9, 2020

Perhaps nearly all Americans agree that we have a moral obligation to help someone in need. However, we are somehow relieved of our social responsibility to help the impoverished, claiming their plight is the consequence of personal responsibility. We then feel justified: why help someone who chose poverty, who is ignorant, unworthy and lazy, simply wanting a handout? See just one "game the system," our biases are confirmed.

Without knowing any one of them personally, we imagine the poor enmasse, judging their character with derision rather than considering their circumstances: the deprivation and insecurity (housing, food, and financial); the demoralizing learned helplessness and emotional instability.

We blame the poor for their plight while seeing our own history as one of hard work and persistence, convinced that our own problems only improved our character. We barely recognize our own good fortune, relative privilege, and the advantageous social connections and support we had along the way. Our success was merited; luck had nothing to do with it.

Such is anti-poverty bias. However, if we could design a just world, we would support each other without bias and share generously. In a just world there would be neither superfluous wealth nor abject poverty.

Gerard Stamm

https://ashevillecitizentimes-nc.newsmemory.com/?publink=0154fb80e_13437f1

Global response to COVID can't wait

September 11, 2020

Contacts with friends in countries where I have been involved tell me about the impact of COVID-19 in their countries at the same time they are raising concerns for me. The COVID global pandemic requires an urgent global response. The White House and Congress don't seem to get that; they left DC for a long recess, telling millions of suffering people to wait.

In most low-income countries the pandemic is undermining decades of progress in fighting disease. Millions of children are missing out on life-saving vaccines and food insecurity and starvation are rising fast.

It is in U.S. interest to help low-income countries deal with the immediate crisis and strengthen healthcare systems in the long run. That's how we prevent future disease outbreaks from becoming deadly global pandemics.

I call on Representative Walker and Senators Burr and Tillis to break the stalemate in DC and pass an emergency response package that addresses the urgent needs of Americans and includes no less than \$20 billion for international development. Frontline organizations like the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB, and Malaria; and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance are out of emergency funds and the stakes are great. Will they act?

Barbara Clawson

<https://www.thetimesnews.com/story/opinion/2020/09/11/letter-global-response-covid-cant-wait/5747958002/>

Omaha World-Herald

Child vaccinations vital

June 10, 2020

During the COVID-19 pandemic, our health care providers have expressed concern (World-Herald news article, May 18) about dramatic decreases in previously high vaccination rates for Nebraska's infants, children and teens. Vaccination rates for pertussis (whooping cough) were down 20% in April 2020 compared to April 2019; measles vaccinations were down 40%.

Pertussis illness is reported annually across Nebraska, ranking 19th highest in the U.S. for 2019. If infected, young infants are at particular risk of severe illness and even death from whooping cough. Large U.S. measles outbreaks have occurred across the country in recent years. As travel increases again, high measles vaccination rates will be required to prevent outbreaks results from renewed travel across the U.S. and globally.

Unvaccinated children are at significant risk to contract and spread these and other vaccine preventable diseases. Our medical clinics are other care providers have developed evidence-based practices to protect children and caregivers from potential exposures to COVID-19 infected contacts. We do NOT want to place our children at risk for sever illness from infections that we can prevent through vaccination.

Furthermore, it is important that we all advocate with our state and federal elected officials to assure funding and infrastructure support for optimal immunization of all children in our communities and globally. This pandemic has surely shown us that infection anywhere in the world threatens us all!

Linda K. Ohri

<https://tinyurl.com/childvaccinationsvital>

Omaha World-Herald

Address global health needs

August 27, 2020

Sens. Deb Fischer and Ben Sasse have been informed on the hardships caused by lack of relief funding. What on Earth were they thinking when they left Washington without passing any COVID relief? On the other hand, it must be difficult being a senator these days when their leadership won't let them vote on critical issues.

A global pandemic requires a global response. Congressional leaders and the White House don't seem to get that. The lack of additional COVID funding means millions of people not getting HIV and TB testing and treatment, and children not getting immunizations. Food insecurity and starvation are also rising fast. Beyond the immediate impact on individuals, the remarkable progress we have made in dozens of countries over 20 or so years is likely to be totally lost for lack of political will to support immunizations and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB, and Malaria.

Whether it's COVID-19 or other ongoing global health emergencies, we need a strong response from Congress here and around the world.

I'm counting on Congress and the White House to break the current stalemate and pass an emergency response package that includes no less than \$20 billion for the global response to the pandemic and focuses on the following: \$4 billion over two years for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria; \$4 billion for Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance; and \$2 billion for anti-hunger efforts, including \$500 million for nutrition. We must act now.

Frances C. Moore

https://omaha.com/opinion/letters/the-public-pulse-voting-and-abortion-trump-critics-are-hysterical-global-health-needs/article_f4a81577-ad8c-552f-93ec-da7d3dded032.html



Global is Local

April 14, 2020, Page A11

Cutting WHO funding endangers all of us WHILE WE are now working to save our own lives in the United States, we must also look to our global reality. Ebola, MERS, SARS and now COVID-19 confront us with the frightening truth that poor health and poor health care systems anywhere in the world threaten our lives here at home. No wall will prevent viral or other contagion.

Clearly our Congress must support aid in other countries to keep us safe. We must prevent heartache and economic disruption from settling on our doorsteps, and we can do so best by keeping it from festering in any doorway in any country. Cutting funding to the World Health Organization (WHO), The Global Fund or any other global funding for health places us in serious danger just as we now face every day.

Please let our senators and representatives know your local concerns are also global concerns. Call or email them today for our future health and economic recovery.

Sandra Duckert



Even more stimulation

April 30, 2020

Thanks for the inspirational title you put on Mike Berg's letter, "Stimulating Compassion" (*EW* 4/23) — perfect timing for his and your inspiration! Like Berg, my wife and I are retired and have enough, so we plan to donate our checks as well. We gave parts to the food bank, experiencing a spike in need; to RESULTS (Results.org) for their work to end hunger and poverty; to some local folks unable to pay rent and buy food; to small businesses that are not receiving anything, but hope to reopen; and National Public Radio, for keeping up an accurate flow of information.

Even if you can't afford to share your check, you can share your voice: Ask your members of Congress to call for a national moratorium on evictions, provide the rent relief needed (at least \$100 billion), increase SNAP by 15 percent or more and increase funding for Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria.

Our calls, emails, and virtual visits can help insure we beat this pandemic on a local, national and global scale, the only way to really win.

Willie Dickerson

<https://eugeneweekly.com/2020/04/30/even-more-stimulation/>



Think globally, act federally

August 13, 2020

We focus on the pandemic's impact on our community, our family and friends, and ourselves — as we should. It's vital that we practice social distancing and wear masks.

But we can't completely escape the COVID virus unless a global strategy is enacted. The virus has spread globally, and it must be harnessed on a global scale by bolstering worldwide health initiatives.

It's important that Oregon's seven federal legislators put their full support behind effective programs like the Gavi vaccine alliance and the Global Fund to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.

Kip Phelps

<https://pamplinmedia.com/ttt/90-opinion/476670-384785-letters-to-the-editor-aug-13-2020>



We must fight infectious disease globally

April 7, 2020

At least one county in West Virginia is trying to prevent people from crossing borders by stopping the sale of liquor to out-of-state residents ([“West Virginia county bans liquor sales to out-of-state residents including Pennsylvanians,”](#) April 4, TribLIVE). This may be effective to stop the movement of some people but stopping viruses and bacteria will take a more comprehensive response.

Knowing that you will get turned away at the checkout aisle and be kept from your wine and booze may keep you out of West Virginia, but infectious diseases are more relentless. The good news is that we already have a systematic response that is effective in stopping global infectious diseases. Congress funds the [Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria](#), which has saved tens of millions of lives over the past 20 years, in many countries all over the world.

As covid-19 has taught us, no infectious disease is local. Congress must prioritize global health systems, alongside the domestic response, as we move forward together. People living in poorer settings must not bear the brunt of global pandemics. Whether it's coronavirus or other ongoing global health emergencies, like tuberculosis or HIV, we need a strong global response that honors the needs and human rights of people in poverty.

I call on my senators, Bob Casey and Pat Toomey, and my representative, Mike Doyle, to continue to fund the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria so that we can rely on effective disease prevention — and get our liquor wherever we want.

Ben Callaway

<https://triblive.com/opinion/letter-to-the-editor-we-must-fight-infectious-disease-globally/>

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Global response

May 18, 2020

Americans are now suing China because they feel that China did not do enough to contain the spread of COVID-19 (May 11, "U.S. Virus Patients, Businesses Sue China"). We need to determine who did right and wrong in the global spread of COVID-19.

But while the courts deliberate, there is a dire need to combat and stop COVID-19 now. We need direct action, not just lawsuits.

That direct action must be global. We need a strong domestic response, but we also have to remember our partners in low-income countries. We've helped many such countries make great progress in the past on vaccines and infectious diseases. But COVID-19 is compromising that progress.

The U.S. should lean on effective international organizations like Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB, and Malaria to help provide essential support to low-income countries that are struggling with the repercussions of the COVID-19 outbreak.

I call on U.S. Rep. Mike Doyle, D-Forest Hills, and Sens. Bob Casey, D-Pa., and Pat Toomey, R-Pa., to write and speak to House and Senate leadership to ensure that the COVID-19 emergency response includes support for global health institutions that will fight infectious disease that impact us all, like COVID-19. This is the humane thing to do and will benefit us all in the long term.

Ben Callaway

<https://www.post-gazette.com/opinion/letters/2020/05/18/Global-response/stories/202005180019>

READING EAGLE

US should think globally in response to coronavirus

May 27, 2020

The new coronavirus bill passed by the U.S. House seems to ignore that this is a global pandemic requiring a global response. It now falls to the Senate to make sure our country does its part in this shared global fight.

Congress should include support for lower-income countries to deal with the immediate crisis and to strengthen health care systems in the long run. It's the right thing to do and the only way we get through this pandemic as a global community.

Our government already supports international organizations such as the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, as well as USAID's programs focused on global health. We should build on these efforts, and I'm counting on our senators to help make it happen.

Leo Kucewicz

https://www.readingeagle.com/opinion/letters-to-editor/letter-u-s-should-think-globally-in-response-to-coronavirus/article_7cd89376-9f6a-11ea-8d2d-93363ad75ce3.html



Global partnership needed on coronavirus

May 31, 2020

I'm so excited that my favorite bakeries are finally opening up again (["Let them eat Torte: Prantl's Bakery reopens in Greensburg, Shadyside,"](#) May 21, TribLIVE). Life feels like we're going back to normal again.

However, I'm concerned that this will happen again. With the phase 4 roll-out of the covid-19 response, the House of Representatives failed to include any real international response to coronavirus in its new bill.

Global challenges aren't solved in isolation — they're solved in partnership. We need a strong response from Congress here and around the world. I'm counting on our senators to make sure our country does its part in a global response to this global pandemic.

I call on Sens. Bob Casey and Pat Toomey to write and speak to House and Senate leadership to ensure that the covid-19 emergency response includes support for global health institutions that will fight infectious diseases that impact us all, like covid-19.

Lily Callaway

<https://triblive.com/opinion/letter-to-the-editor-global-partnership-needed-on-coronavirus/>

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Unclear future for 2020 graduates

June 1, 2020

Graduation photos, robes, commencement speeches and the chance to finally walk across the stage toward that hard-earned diploma weren't the only things that the COVID-19 pandemic has taken away from the Class of 2020. With universities still unclear on fall reopening plans, even more significant is the uncertainty that my class faces about the next steps of our education.

College communities are very much a microcosm of the world, made up of students not only across the nation, but across the globe. Unfortunately, the House of Representatives failed to include any real international response to coronavirus in their new coronavirus relief bill.

On behalf of the Class of 2020, I'm calling on my Sens. Bob Casey, D-Pa., and Pat Toomey, R-Pa., to make sure our country does its part in a global response to this global pandemic.

Keerthana Samanthapudi

<https://www.post-gazette.com/opinion/letters/2020/06/01/Unclear-future-for-2020-graduates/stories/202006010011>



Vaccine Aid for Developing Countries

June 22, 2020

A few days after her birthday, Mississippi's Bertha Vickers killed two deer in one shot (["101-year-old woman, avid deer hunter, bags 2 with 1 shot,"](#) Jan. 19, 2019, TribLIVE), then cleaned, prepared and shared her belated present with her family.

A century ago, the average life span was only 49. With the implementation of vaccines that combat serious illnesses, especially protecting children, the average life span in the United States has increased to almost 80.

Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance (gavi.org), an international partnership, aids in delivering vaccines to children in developing countries. I call on my senators, Bob Casey and Pat Toomey, and my representative, Mike Doyle, to support funding for Gavi so that children in developing countries can also live longer.

Sarah Vizzeswarapu

<https://triblive.com/opinion/letter-to-the-editor-vaccine-aid-for-developing-countries/>



America loses lead on global health

June 24, 2020

Dear America, what has happened to you? We are alarmed and shocked by your absence at the Global Public Health table. You were always the first among equals, leading in impact and generosity, saving millions and millions of lives around the world. We all so admired you, counting on your can-do spirit to help solve our myriad international challenges.

Your scientists created powerful vaccines that changed the world, allowing parents to avoid losing their children. You helped parents stay alive to raise their children. Jonas Salk and Albert Sabin, great American researchers, helped eradicate the scourge of polio. Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), measles, mumps, and more — all diseases that routinely killed children — are barely seen anymore, due to American innovation and commitment to global vaccination programs.

Dr. D.A. Henderson, an American epidemiologist from the CDC, headed up WHO's initiative to end smallpox, and he succeeded! How proud you should be, America, of your role in making life on our planet healthier for all. We were wowed by the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), initiated by President George W. Bush to address the global HIV/AIDS epidemic.

America, you have been a vital partner in GAVI, our international organization created in 2000 to improve access to new and underused vaccines for children living in the world's poorest countries. GAVI needs extra funding now; the coronavirus pandemic will require a worldwide vaccine roll-out, and millions of children are now tragically missing their routine shots. This will result in outbreaks of other killer diseases that have been under control. It's a disaster. But America, you were not at our most recent GAVI Global Vaccine Summit. How could this possibly be?

We know you have problems of your own and that you've been distracted by yours being the worst COVID-19 outbreak in the world. Surely you don't want to drop the ball now, after your successful long-term investments in global public health outcomes. You, America, would be the first to say that we are in this together. Global health crises require international teamwork.

America, we pray for your return.

Yours, The World

Betsy Teutsch

<https://www.chestnuthilllocal.com/2020/06/24/letters-america-loses-lead-on-global-health/>

Why US cannot ignore global effects of the coronavirus pandemic

May 17, 2020

One thing I love about Upstate South Carolina is that we are an international community. With businesses and friends from all over the world, we can be proud that we care about issues that affect us locally and globally.

As the CEO of an Upstate organization that supports women and girls globally, I want our community to remember that resource-poor areas in the world are not equipped to handle ancillary effects of COVID-19. Medical supply chains are being disrupted, which could mean an additional 1.2 million deaths of children under 5 years old in the next six months, according to reports. Disruption of basic food supply chains means that an additional 135 million people will face crisis levels of hunger in 2020. In other words, 14% of the world's population is walking toward the brink of starvation right now.

Coronavirus is a global challenge that needs a global response. But the new bill in the House of Representatives left this out, with no international focus. Whether it's COVID-19 or other ongoing global health emergencies, we need a strong global response from Congress that honors the needs and human rights of people experiencing poverty.

Organizations like the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, and the Global Partnership for Education are responding to the emergency. We should support them. Global challenges aren't solved in isolation; they're solved in partnership. I'm now counting on our South Carolina Senators (Lindsey) Graham and (Tim) Scott to help fill this gaping hole in the bill moving in Washington.

If anything has become clear in the COVID-19 crisis, it is that our futures are bound to one another – all over the world. Our politicians must act.

Beth Ellen Holimon

<https://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/opinion/2020/05/17/letter-why-us-cannot-ignore-coronavirus-pandemic-global-impact/5197119002/>

U.S. Senate must deliver a global pandemic response

July 30, 2020

Dining for Women, headquartered in the Upstate, is a powerful community of concerned individuals engaged in education, advocacy and grant-making dedicated to achieving global gender equality. Many of its grantees across the planet are doing work that either supports the prevention of pandemics or responds to their spread.

Dining for Women members come together in almost 500 chapters across the country to learn about issues impacting women and girls globally, advocate for international development aid that supports women's interests, and give charitably to support organizations working to empower and create opportunities for women and girls globally.

Each month, Dining for Women members like the two of us have the privilege of hearing the firsthand experiences and wisdom of women in developing nations and how they are responding to the numerous challenges of surviving and thriving. Lately we're hearing, month after month, how COVID-19 is setting back their work by years if not decades.

In response, Dining for Women members have opened up our wallets by giving grantee organizations the freedom to spend grants, typically around \$50,000 each over up to two years, as they see fit to sustain their missions in the face of COVID-19.

We do this in a spirit of partnership. Across miles and oceans, Americans are key stakeholders, not distant spectators, as vulnerable populations around the globe weather the onslaught of COVID-19. In particular, we know from history how the fate of women in developing nations has a direct and profound impact on American interests.

Our advocacy partners with RESULTS tell us Congress should contribute at least \$20 billion for international development in its next COVID-19 supplemental measure,

including \$4 billion for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria; \$4 billion for Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance; and \$2 billion for anti-hunger efforts. The U.S. Global Leadership Coalition and InterAction concur with these needs.

This sum is negligible compared to what we'd spend to resolve future pandemics and catastrophes that would inevitably flow from our indifference.

Together, volunteers with RESULTS and Dining for Women have been calling on Congress to make this strategic investment in our national security and public health. So, you might imagine our dismay when we learned the House of Representatives' HEROES Act omitted funding for the critical global components of responding to the global pandemic.

In South Carolina, our allies include U.S. Reps. William Timmons and Joe Wilson, who support global responses and the Global Fund's vaccine programs that provide a backstop that keeps the next pandemic from reaching our shores – as there is no assurance we only have to combat one pandemic at a time. Gavi is praised for its work across partisan lines, earning express praise from President Trump.

Right now, the next COVID-19 response measure is before the U.S. Senate. They may act any day now, but the draft measure we've seen falls far short of what's needed. Most alarmingly, the Senate's HEALS Act shortchanges Gavi and omits supplemental funding for the Global Fund whose vital programs are destined to grind to a halt within weeks if the Senate drops the ball.

U.S. Sens. Tim Scott and Lindsey Graham are key decision-makers as to whether the COVID-19 supplemental measure will include an adequate global response. America depends on their leadership to ensure the HEALS Act does not neglect the world's broader health crises by falling short on the \$20 billion package needed to prevent the worst aspects of extreme poverty and food insecurity that have emerged.

As COVID-19 is teaching us, the cost of failure abroad is too high to bear there and here.

Beth Ellen Holimon, a Greer resident, is the president and CEO of Dining for Women, a national organization committed to community building for global gender equality with almost 500 chapters in 46 states and 28 chapters in South Carolina. Contact her

at bethellen@diningforwomen.org. **Jim Hennigan**, a Mauldin resident, is a member of the National Advocacy Committee of Dining for Women and an officer of the Upstate chapter of RESULTS, a national partner of Dining for Women on congressional advocacy. Contact him at jjhennigan@gmail.com.

https://www.postandcourier.com/health/covid19/commentary-u-s-senate-must-deliver-a-global-pandemic-response/article_eb7d9926-d1cd-11ea-b899-c35236a40c31.html

Global disease impact

August 11, 2020

Thursday's online commentary, "U.S. Senate must deliver a global pandemic response," written by Upstate readers Beth Ellen Holimon and Jim Hennigan, makes a great deal of sense.

While it's true that the needs of the global community in this time of pandemic crisis are likely to be overshadowed, overlooked and perhaps even forgotten in favor of domestic concerns, it is even more vital for us to acknowledge and recognize how the elimination of diseases and viruses like COVID-19 around the world can have a lasting impact on the future of the United States.

We have already seen how quickly a disease can spread from country to country until it engulfs the entire world, leaving hundreds of thousands dead in its wake.

It is up to the U.S. and its partners to continue to support the organizations and groups who work tirelessly to ensure that future pandemics never reach our shores.

As the next COVID-19 relief measure is being debated, it should cause concern for all of us that whatever is adopted will fall far short of what's needed to supplement funding for these global organizations, potentially erasing the decades of progress that have been made in the fight against TB, AIDS, malaria, malnutrition and poverty around the world.

Judy Bello

https://www.postandcourier.com/opinion/letters_to_editor/letters-to-the-editor-cane-bay-access-should-have-been-better-planned/article_f84afe0a-cc5f-11ea-bde9-a365231a5300.html

Low-income countries need help

April 19, 2020

The world faces its most significant global pandemic. While the United States must urgently fight the global spread of COVID-19, we must also protect hard-fought global health gains secured in low-income countries.

The novel coronavirus has certainly disrupted all our lives; however, it's the impoverished communities, already pushed to the margins, that face the greatest risks. The toll of COVID-19 on countries' economies will only intensify the challenge of obtaining daily necessities for survival.

Sub-Saharan Africa may be particularly vulnerable. Most countries rated by the Global Health Security Index as "least prepared" to respond are in Africa.

To aid with the response, the U.S. should lean on organizations with global reach like Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria.

As Congress develops a Phase 4 COVID-19 response package, I encourage our senators and local representatives to support measures that: support low-income countries to respond to COVID-19; protect other health programs that address diseases of poverty; and address impacts of the pandemic, such as education, that disproportionately affect the poor.

Kyle Talkington

<https://www.dallasnews.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/2020/04/19/letters-to-the-editor-lab-technicians-flower-mound-assisted-living-dallas-county-rockwall-stores-low-income-communities-health-corps/>

The Dallas Morning News

Vaccine quest must be global

May 22, 2020

Re: "Vaccine shows promise — Early Moderna testing holds hope, but more study needed," Tuesday news story.

This promising vaccine news deserves your front-page coverage! I know I will not feel comfortable going out until I get vaccinated. I am sure many others share my feeling.

When a vaccine is available, everyone who wants to be vaccinated should be. The way that happens around the world differs greatly as the quality and capabilities of health systems are so different.

Gavi, the vaccine alliance, is the leading international organization driving the equitable delivery of life-saving vaccines. Since its inception, Gavi has protected a whole generation of children, 760 million of them, from potentially fatal infectious diseases. The alliance, along with its low-income country partners, must begin preparing now to deliver a COVID-19 vaccine in its countries while also figuring out how to continue current immunization programs.

The new House emergency funding bill made no provision for global programs. We cannot and should not ignore the world. Please contact both Texas senators and urge that the Senate bill recognize the global nature of the pandemic. Including at least 1% of any additional funding for global efforts, including for Gavi, would be prudent.

Margaret Smith

<https://www.dallasnews.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/2020/05/22/letters-to-the-editor-texans-vote-by-mail-vaccines-opinion-vs-news-steve-mnuchin-jewish-extremist/>

Global pandemic needs global response

June 23, 2020

Donald Trump gained the presidency on a mantra of "America First," the foreign policy doctrine that has driven his administration. Trump took heat for it but placing the interests of one's own nation above those of others is how all world leaders operate.

In an increasingly interdependent, and dangerous, world, however, advancing national interests often means acting in consort with other nations. Nowhere is that truer than in fighting a global pandemic that doesn't recognize international borders

You wouldn't know it, though, by the latest COVID-response legislation passed in Congress. In May, the Democratic-led House of Representatives approved the HEROES (Health and Economic Recovery Omnibus Emergency Solutions) Act, providing \$3 trillion in domestic investments, but nothing for fighting COVID-19 and its impacts outside U.S. borders.

Obviously, the threat posed by the highly contagious coronavirus anywhere is a threat to the entire planet. When U.S. Senators, including Texas Republicans John Cornyn and Ted Cruz, work out their version of the House bill in late July, they ought to ensure that a sliver of the money, less than 1 percent, goes toward fighting COVID-19 globally.

A U.S. investment of \$15 billion to \$20 billion in the next COVID-response legislation to fund global initiatives also would help preserve the enormous gains made in reducing other infectious diseases in the world's poorest nations.

A just-released poll by the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition shows the vast majority of Americans support funding for international COVID-19 assistance, and for continuing multi-national efforts on global health

"Global health is an issue Republicans and Democrats have agreed on for decades," said Ken Patterson, a director for RESULTS, a non-profit advocacy group based in Washington, D.C. "In the face of a global pandemic that doesn't respect international borders, this is no time to change course."

In the battle against COVID-19, strained health care systems around the world are forced to divert established resources, program infrastructure, and community health worker networks from other infectious diseases. Many of the gains the United States and its international partners have made over the last 20 years in child vaccination and eradicating Tuberculosis, AIDS, and Malaria are now threatened.

Assisted by the U.S. Agency for International Development, the Global Fund to Fight Aids, Tuberculosis, and Malaria, as well as Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, have saved an estimated 32 million lives. Those efforts have created a more stable world, as well as an enormous amount of good will toward the United States.

Rolling back those gains would leave 80 million more children at risk for preventable diseases. More than 1 million additional people could die from tuberculosis, already the planet's biggest infectious killer. World hunger and deaths from Malaria and HIV/AIDS would increase dramatically.

A global pandemic needs a global response.

Congress should quickly pass legislation that includes less than 1 percent of the funding -- or \$15 billion to \$20 billion -- to fight COVID-19 globally. Such a judicious action by Congress would reflect the views of most Americans, the bi-partisan efforts of Congress over the past two decades, and the nation's moral leadership on global health.

Mary Albertson

https://www.palestineherald.com/news/php-editorial-global-pandemic-needs-global-response/article_2e50cb80-b575-11ea-927f-2b5c5ffc98ae.html

The Dallas Morning News

Global health our obligation

July 10, 2020

Withdrawing from the World Health Organization is the wrong thing to do during a global pandemic. As long as COVID-19 rages in countries around the world, we will not be safe.

Our place in the world will be defined in part by how we respond to the pandemic beyond our borders. Make no mistake about it, if we retreat from organizations like the WHO, China will eagerly step in and assume a larger leadership role.

America has always been a leader in global health. COVID-19 could undermine decades of progress against epidemics such as AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria that kill millions of people every year and undermine progress preventing child deaths with immunizations and nutrition programs. We still have a moral obligation to help prevent humanitarian disasters whenever possible.

When the Senate returns to work July 20, they will be debating what further emergency COVID-19 funding is required. Please let them know that including \$12 billion to \$20 billion in global health programs is essential.

Margaret Smith

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1wvQVXY5ATQuFTkO5o2bJS4mGPXg1EoU76es1H3C42jI/edit#gid=809962996>

The Dallas Morning News

Supporters of the Gavi vaccine

July 18, 2020

Re: Goal of summit is global vaccinations — Effort aims to ensure nations that are short on cash aren't left out," June 5 news story.

Three cheers for the global leaders who met for the Gavi vaccine alliance summit in early June. Member countries, including the United States, pledged \$8.8 billion to ensure access to vaccines for lower-income countries.

As stated in the article, \$2 billion will be raised for distribution of a future vaccine for the novel coronavirus to low- and middle-income countries. If we have learned anything from the current pandemic, I hope it is that we live in a world made smaller by the ease of travel. A virus travels at least as easily as the average frequent flier.

By assisting governments and organizations around the world to readily vaccinate against all types of viruses, we protect our loved ones and our country.

Julie Waller

<https://www.dallasnews.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/2020/07/18/letters-to-the-editor-three-cheers-to-chris-reynolds-of-toyota-plano-police-gavi-vaccine-supporters/>



Congress should fund famine relief

July 31, 2020

Regarding "U.N.: Pandemic increasing child hunger deaths," (A12, July 28): Carrying a child, giving birth and nursing a baby are some of the most joyful experiences of a woman's life. But worldwide famine brought on by COVID-19 is turning that joy into agony.

Tuesday's picture of a malnourished infant girl in Burkina Faso portrays only one of millions of young victims of starvation. After seeing that picture, I urge Congress to include famine relief in their deliberations for future stimulus. Too much of our world will suffer permanent harm to our most precious resources – our children – without swift compassionate action.

Nancy Perich Daly

<https://www.houstonchronicle.com/opinion/letters/article/Letters-Congress-should-fund-famine-relief-15446479.php>

The Dallas Morning News

National security at stake

August 18, 2020

Re: "Global health is good for security — Pandemic compels us to see the importance of preparedness and international cooperation," by Dr. Bill Frist, Sunday Opinion.

As we stumble our way through the COVID-19 pandemic, this column by Frist was spot on. In 2003, the Senate, with Frist as the majority leader, enacted legislation that became known as the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). It focused on how America would lead the world in combating the AIDS pandemic that killed millions worldwide by following a road map based on the principle that "our national health ... depends on global health. And the ability of other countries to prepare for and respond to outbreaks directly affects our own health security."

President Donald Trump has totally ignored this road map by playing politics and the blame game. Our economy has been devastated, and unemployment is soaring. He has slashed health preparedness while spending billions on national defense while more Americans have died from COVID-19 than died in the Vietnam War. Trump is more concerned about slashing U.S. Postal Service funds so as to influence voting than supporting public health by following the science. In November, vote like our country's health security depends on it — yours does!

Susan R. Ansley

<https://www.dallasnews.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/2020/08/18/letters-to-the-editor-global-health-individual-liberty-biden-harris-ticket-nra-the-19th-amendment/>

Statesman

Cornyn, Senate should pass a relief package

August 18, 2020

Re: Aug. 16 article, "Americans waiting on help, but Congress is in recess."

I am appalled that the Senate recessed for three weeks without passing emergency legislation to address the pandemic and economic crisis. Sen. John Cornyn shows he is a leader by standing behind Sen. Mitch McConnell on TV. How about he and his colleagues take action to deal with the emergency America faces?

Sen. Cornyn and the Senate need to go back to work and pass a COVID-19 package that provides [\\$100 billion emergency rental assistance](#) to avert the catastrophe of [20 million Americans evicted](#). What about the [more than 25 million workers who got their last \\$600 supplement with their unemployment check at the end of July](#)? And, [according to experts, they need to provide \\$20 billion](#) to keep the wheels from falling off international humanitarian health work.

This is a real crisis for real Americans. We need real leaders who will take real action right now.

Mark Coats

<https://www.statesman.com/opinion/20200818/letters-to-editor-aug-18-2020>

The Dallas Morning News

Commit to fighting COVID-19

September 1, 2020

Re: "In a health crisis, hope can be reborn — President George W. Bush helped lead a successful fight against AIDS epidemic in Africa," by Dr. Mark Dybul, Sunday Opinion.

Dybul challenges all of us to support the funding of a global response to the coronavirus pandemic. His column eloquently describes what led to a world-changing response from the U.S. by implementing the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) in 2003. That program led to controlling what had been an out-of-control pandemic by stabilizing the spread of disease, saving more than 17 million lives and bringing hope to the people of more than 50 countries that they and their children would not die.

PEPFAR and other programs, including Bush's malaria initiative, "changed the way many Africans think about the U.S." These successes were both humanitarian and beneficial in many ways to the U.S.

Now we are challenged by the novel coronavirus pandemic and it deserves a global response.

So far little has been done, but now is the opportunity for the U.S. to support the global fight against this virus by committing \$12 billion to \$20 billion for this purpose in the upcoming COVID-19 response legislation now before Congress. Urge your representatives and senators to make this commitment.

Martin White

https://edition.pagesuite.com/popovers/dynamic_article_popover.aspx?artguid=8035cf8f-f660-4afb-af48-58ee5f97ffad



Nobel Laureate Muhammad Yunus: A post-pandemic world should deliver a new future for capitalism

May 19, 2020

The extent of damage that the current coronavirus pandemic is causing the world is mind-boggling. However, despite this massive damage, it offers us an unparalleled opportunity.

Right now, the whole world has to address a big question. It is not about how to get the economy running again. We know how to do that. The big question that we have to answer is: Do we take the world back to where it was before this coronavirus came? Is that a worthy goal? Or, do we *redesign*? The decision is entirely ours.

The pre-pandemic world was full of strife and threat of collapse. Until COVID-19 became the news, we literally were counting the days until the whole planet would be unfit for human existence due to climate catastrophe; we were under serious threat of massive unemployment created by artificial intelligence; and wealth concentration was reaching an explosive level.

Should we go back to that world? The choice is ours.

The coronavirus suddenly changed the context and calculus of the world. It has opened up audacious possibilities that never existed before. Suddenly we are at the tabula rasa — the blank slate. There has been so much destruction that we must rebuild. We can go any direction we want. What unbelievable freedom of choice.

Before we truly restart the economy, we must decide on what kind of economy we want. First and foremost, we have to recognize that we are the economy and “the economy” is a means. It facilitates us to reach the goals set by us. We should not forget for a moment that it is a system or tool made by us. It should not behave like

a death trap. We must keep on designing and redesigning it until we arrive at the highest collective flourishing, resilience and happiness.

If at any point we feel that the economy is not taking us where we want to go, we should understand that there is something wrong with the software we are currently using, and we need to rewrite the code. All we have to do is to fix it. If we want to create a world of zero net carbon emission, we build the right metaphorical hardware and software to achieve it. If we want a world of zero unemployment, we do the same. If we want a world of shared prosperity and less astronomical concentration of wealth, we do the same. The power is in us. When human beings set their mind to get something done, they do it. Little is impossible.

The COVID-19 crisis offers us almost limitless opportunities to make a fresh start. We can start designing our system to create the results we want. Now is the time to reimagine the future.

One simple unanimous decision will help us tremendously: a clear resolve that we don't want to go back to where we were.

We don't want to jump back into the same frying pan in the name of recovery. We should not even call what's next a "recovery."

What should matter most as we create the future? Let's put social and environmental consciousness firmly center stage for all decision-making.

Pursuing this offers the possibility of an economy that unleashes creativity, honors human dignity, celebrates the planet's ability to sustain life and engenders happiness.

Governments' efforts should concentrate on those measures that provide maximum social and environmental benefit to society. Future public policy ought to reflect our vision for the kind of world we want. And importantly, businesses will play a key role in achieving social purpose.

As we reimagine the future economy, I propose that we harness the engine of business to achieve social purpose. Let's call this social business.

A social business seeks to maximize social benefit. It is a business created to solve people's problems and address their needs. It is not a nonprofit, but it doesn't enrich investors either. With whatever profit it generates, investors recoup their original investment and then all subsequent profits are plowed back into the business to create additional social benefit.

Encouraging social businesses doesn't displace government programs that are needed urgently right now. And social businesses will take time to come to fruition and reach scale on par with the impact they can have.

To speed up the entry of social businesses, governments could create Social Business Venture Capital Funds. Special stimulus funds could be allotted to those wanting to take small businesses and transform them into a social business.

Traditional companies could be encouraged to become social businesses themselves, take in social business partners, or establish a fund to seed the emergence of such ventures.

Social business investors and entrepreneurs are everywhere. Too often we don't see them because economic textbooks don't recognize their existence. Economics has become a science for profit maximization. But now is the time for an economics that can deliver a new future for capitalism. These investors and entrepreneurs exist all over the world.

Already there are giant multinational companies like Dannon, big social business funds, many talented CEOs, foundations and others with many years of experience in financing and running global and local social businesses.

Hardcore personal-profit makers have plunged into social business and found it uniquely rewarding.

We must act fast and design our plans right now, even while we are in the thick of the crisis. When the crisis subsides, there will be a stampede of old ideas. Strong cases will be made to derail the new initiatives. Some will protest untested policies. Others will merely seek the familiar. But now is the time for boldness. Let's reimagine what's possible and redesign our world.

If we fail in our response to this crisis and squander the opportunity, we will be heading for a calamity that is many times worse than what the coronavirus brought. This is our chance.

Muhammad Yunus is a 2006 Nobel Peace Laureate and the founder of Grameen Bank.

<https://www.deseret.com/opinion/2020/5/19/21263758/nobel-laureate-muhammad-yunus-pandemic-society-economy-new-normal-going-back-covid-19>

The Salt Lake Tribune

Circling the wagons makes no sense in a global pandemic

May 27, 2020

The House has passed its [Phase 4 pandemic relief funding bill](#). The Senate will debate it next. My concern is not that the \$3 trillion investment may not be enough to keep our health systems functioning and our economy afloat, but that this package ignores the rest of the world, despite the fact that we are in a global fight for survival.

The entire world, all of its peoples, and every economy, is simultaneously now under threat. Yet, this bill only looks inward, focuses its attention solely upon the United States. Perhaps this circling the wagons to protect “our own” made some sense when the adversary was another human, but it makes no sense when the adversary is a global virus.

This global contagion has shed light on just how interdependent we are on the world, and just how frail our health system and our economy are. Like a house of cards with each card gingerly leaning against the next, our health, our lives and our livelihoods are all intertwined and mutually dependent upon others, upon our neighbors and upon the far-flung peoples of our world.

Our multi-trillion-dollar health care system was brought to its knees by the lack of a 50-cent mask. Our celebrated “just-in-time” delivery processes and minimalist inventories have failed miserably; another card falling. A tiny mutation in a bat virus on the other side of the globe has resoundingly demonstrated that all humans everywhere are equally vulnerable.

The obvious lesson from our current crisis is that all humans on the planet are in this together. That every nation, every tribe, every community is under attack and that we need to defend everyone, if we are going to get through this. We can no longer pretend that we can just take care of our own, our own families, our own country. That will not work. We will continue to need international commerce,

distant sources of raw materials, global producers and worldwide consumers. We will need the world to survive and to thrive, if we are to survive and thrive.

Yet, in that \$3 trillion spending bill, there is not one cent allocated to investing in global health. Consider that because of global lockdowns and health system disruptions, our old infectious scourges are rebounding. Tuberculosis, which last year killed 1.5 million souls, will increase without medicines getting out to villages. Malaria and AIDS will accelerate.

Over 13.5 million children will miss immunizations and ancient adversaries like measles and polio will again surge, costing children their lives. Food shortages are calculated to double the number of people experiencing acute hunger to 265 million, with stunting and wasting in children and increased child deaths. And without global intervention this new virus will continue to circulate for years to come.

Now, more than ever before, it is clear that we who are able to help the world must help the world. I urge you to call your senators and beg them to allocate \$12 billion of the relief fund to global health investments to shore up poor countries' health systems, train health workers, deliver needed supplies and to send the message that we care about the peoples of the world.

While that seems like a lot of money, it is less than one half of one percent of the total relief bill.

We must invest in the survival and thriving of all the world's peoples. We are all in this together.

William E. Cosgrove, M.D., *Cottonwood Heights, is a pediatrician and a member of the Salt Lake County Board of Health.*

<https://www.sltrib.com/opinion/commentary/2020/05/27/william-e-cosgrove/>

The Salt Lake Tribune

Letter: There can't be economic recovery while the pandemic continues

June 2, 2020

As the Utah Legislature revisits our state budget during an interim session in June and the U.S. Senate considers action on another stimulus bill, I would ask our Utah legislators and our U.S. congressional delegation to reflect on two basic questions.

First, what are our values as a society? Second, what programs and spending will allow us to rebound the most quickly, once the pandemic is over?

Please also note that control of the epidemic and economic health are two sides of one coin. Economic recovery will not happen while the pandemic continues.

Some of the resource priorities that should flow in answer to those two basic questions include those needed to:

- Provide a strong public health response and ensure access to medical care for those who fall ill.
- Prevent dramatic increases in homelessness and hunger.
- Ensure that small businesses can survive to reopen once it is safe to do so.
- Ensure that our children's education is not irreparably harmed and that return to the classroom can be done safely.

Finally, some aspects of Utah's response have been/are concerning, namely:

- Failure to quickly implement clear, mandatory statewide restrictions.
- Stripping of the ability of cities and counties to independently impose restrictions.

- Failure to comprehensively test and screen high risk populations in care facilities, prisons, and other human “repositories.”
- Reopening prematurely without nuanced thinking around which specific activities can resume/venues open.

A second wave seems sure to follow premature reopening and disregard for the simple precaution of universal mask wearing and the limiting of gatherings. A second wave will be worse than the first and another round of shutdown will be even more economically devastating than the first. Furthermore, it will be more difficult to impose.

Ellen Brady

<https://www.sltrib.com/opinion/letters/2020/06/02/letter-there-cant-be/>



The Senate should focus on aiding global initiatives

June 16, 2020

Great to see a bipartisan group in Congress working on extending business loans (["Congress hustles to extend spending window as COVID-19 loan deadlines loom"](#) May 27). What about the Senate moving on the recent relief bill passed by the House that offers help for millions of renters about to be homeless, an increase to the SNAP program that is our best weapon against the seemingly unstoppable rise of hunger and help for state and local governments, the leaders in our fight against the virus? The Senate can add funding for global initiatives like Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria, both on the front lines against this and other pandemics around the world, protecting us locally from these pandemics coming back to our shores.

So, let's call, write and virtually visit our senators and ask them to hustle to deal with this crisis of hunger, a looming cascade to homelessness, strengthening the local branches of government that are on the front lines in this battle and aiding the global initiatives that the world depends on.

Willie Dickerson

<https://www.deseret.com/opinion/2020/6/16/21277471/letter-the-senate-should-focus-on-aiding-global-initiatives>

The Salt Lake Tribune

We are at war

August 6, 2020

Our enemy, a tiny virus, has already killed more Americans than were killed in the First World War. More than were killed fighting fascism in Europe during World War II. More than the total lost in Korea, Viet Nam, Iraq, and Afghanistan combined. We have lost 158,000 Americans so far in this fight, yet our leaders dither.

We are in a health crisis, a financial crisis, a human rights crisis and a looming mental health crisis, yet our congressional leaders wring their hands and wait. Are they waiting for the skies to open? For seagulls to rescue us? Or perhaps for someone else to stand up and accept the blame? Inaction in a crisis is cowardly.

Sen. Romney and Sen. Lee, it is time to stand up and fight for the protections and relief that your constituents need. Push Sen. McConnell (after delaying 81 painful days) to finally bring the House-passed [Heroes Act](#) to a vote. Include immediate protections from eviction, continue the enhanced unemployment and food subsidies and invest in mental health and trauma recovery.

Also please include investment in global pandemic relief. (It is, after all, a world war that cannot be won within our own borders). McConnell's [Coronavirus Response Additional Supplemental Appropriations Act](#) is cruelly insufficient; too little and already too late. Yes, it is scary to increase our debt, to take out another mortgage on the family house to rescue the family business. And yes, we will all be paying it off for a generation. But if we cower and do nothing, we will lose even more. We are in a war.

Senators, please stand and fight for us. Choosing to not fight during war is worse than cowardice, it is treason.

William E. Cosgrove

<https://www.sltrib.com/opinion/letters/2020/08/06/letter-we-must-see-that/>

The Seattle Times

Do your part in the fight against malaria

April 25, 2020

Excellent update on the importance of funding the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria ["Malaria battle reaches a critical crossroads" editorial, April 23].

Each of us can do our part by calling or writing those who represent us in Congress and thank them for past support of the Global Fund and ask them to continue to budget America's important pledge this October.

Willie Dickerson

<https://www.seattletimes.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/do-your-part-in-the-fight-against-malaria/>

The Seattle Times

Coronavirus: Global problem

May 7, 2020

Let's all remember that COVID-19 is a global pandemic. As bad as it is in the U.S., low-income countries are suffering in nightmarish ways.

The gains made in child immunization are lost because of a critical shortage of health workers. We have clean water and sanitation not available in many countries.

I'm asking our representatives and senators to write and speak to House and Senate leadership to ensure that our COVID-19 response includes support for global health and education in low-income partner nations.

Let's remind ourselves that the pandemic is a global problem. We're citizens of Earth. We're all in this together.

Rochelle Goldberg

<https://www.seattletimes.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/coronavirus-global-problem/>



Response must be global

May 15, 2020

“COVID-19 has preyed upon our interconnectedness” is a statement from an April 14 AP report about Washington, Oregon and California’s governors announcing they’ll work together to form a [coronavirus response pact](#).

As we regionally respond to the tragedy of this pandemic, we know it’s also threatening communities facing poverty all around the world.

As Congress prepares for the next stage of its coronavirus response, it should include support for lower-income countries to deal with the immediate crisis and to strengthen their healthcare systems in the long run.

Our government already supports international organizations that do this well, including the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, as well U.S. programs focused on global health and education. We should build on these efforts.

Thankfully, Washington leadership in Olympia along with representation in D.C. recognizes this is a global pandemic, requiring both essential local response as well as long-term global response. Senators Murray and Cantwell; Reps. Heck, Kilmer and Herrera-Beutler are doing what they can. Our gratitude to them. And yet we’d like to spread this perspective with others across the country. Perhaps you have friends or relatives with whom you might share this interconnectedness concern?

Nancy Curtiss

<https://www.theolympian.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/article242720026.html>



Think globally in COVID response

May 17, 2020

We are encouraged to see that Congress continues to address the need for a strong response to help mitigate the economic and medical impact of COVID-19 in the United States.

We are writing to express concern that adequate funding for global health and education might not be included in the Congressional CARES-4 bill. The U.S. has made substantial progress over the past few years in reducing the incidence of TB, malaria, HIV/AIDS, and malnutrition; while increasing access to education for children living in impoverished countries. COVID-19 is severely compromising this progress. Without continued funding, in the coming few years we could see millions of unnecessary deaths along with economic and political instability in our low-income partner countries.

We urge everyone to contact Senators Murray and Cantwell, and Congressman Kilmer. Please ask them to support adequate funding for these global issues. This is the humane thing to do and it will help us all in the long term.

Leslie and Michael Boyer

https://www.kitsapsun.com/story/opinion/readers/2020/05/17/think-globally-covid-response/5209952002/?utm_source=kitsapsun-Daily%20Briefing&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=daily_briefing&utm_term=latest_article_headline



U.S. foreign aid efforts on health should continue

May 18, 2020

As the United States and the world face the COVID-19 threat, we must not forget our partners in low-income countries.

Our aid has helped these countries make great progress on child health, diseases and education. But these advances are precarious, and COVID-19 is already compromising basic vaccination services, education and access for testing and treatment of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.

The US should lean on our alliances with effective international organizations with proven success like Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB, and Malaria to amplify the response.

Rep. Rick Larsen and Sens. Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell should write and speak with U.S. House and Senate leadership to ensure that our response to the COVID-19 crisis includes support for global health and education in low-income partner nations. This is the right thing to do and produce better results for us in the end.

Ronald Borovec

<https://www.heraldnet.com/opinion/u-s-foreign-aid-efforts-on-health-should-continue/>



Leaders in Congress must hear our voices

May 26, 2020

Perfect timing to suggest we spend money to save lives instead of other actions, or little action at all. ("Spend money to save lives, not take them," by Pat Wolff, Bainbridge Island Review, May 5)

Right now, there are proposals in Congress to deal with the housing crisis that would help cut off the flow to homelessness; to increase the funding for SNAP (formerly food stamps) to battle hunger; and to increase our pledge to fight pandemics with extra money for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB, and Malaria, and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. Both of these organizations are well positioned and working hard to battle global pandemics, including COVID-19.

So, speak up to the members of our Washington state Congressional delegation, champions of this life-saving work, asking for follow through and double their efforts to keep us safe and bring equity to America.

Willie Dickerson

<https://www.bainbridgereview.com/letters/leaders-in-congress-must-hear-our-voices-letter-to-the-editor/>



Pandemic: Congress must approve global aid

May 28, 2020

A global pandemic requires a global response. Ninety six percent of American voters believe the U.S. ought to help with the global response to the COVID-19 emergency. However, Congress has yet to include anything for global health in its emergency funding.

Even before the pandemic, almost 15,000 children under age 5 and 800 pregnant or parenting women died each day from preventable causes. Over 1 million people die annually from tuberculosis, the most infectious killer in the world.

Much of the global health infrastructure has pivoted to address the pandemic. So those numbers are sure to rise as our efforts to address maternal child health and tuberculosis and nutrition are redirected.

The U.S. Senate must step up and fund global health in its next round of pandemic funding to correct the House's omission of global health from its bill.

Please contact Senators Murray and Cantwell to speak on behalf of the children and women worldwide whose lives are more at risk than ever.

Beth Wilson

<https://www.thenewstribune.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/article243066821.html>

It is time to fill the cracks that millions of Americans are falling through

June 1, 2020

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, more questions arise: What can we learn from this virus? What positive changes can come from this pandemic? It is a good time for reflection and action as we shelter at home, grateful for those on the front lines. Thank you first responders, grocery, drug store, and other essential businesses that supply our basic needs.

Perhaps most important, the virus has shown up the cracks in our system, where millions of Americans fall through, those unable to pay rent, the hungry, and the homeless. Often these folks are working, many more than one job. Fortunately, as Leonard Cohen said, "There is a crack in everything; that's how the light gets in."

It is time to fill these cracks with the light of hope. Initiatives in Congress addressed this work. In the House, Rep. Denny Heck introduced the Emergency Rental Assistance Act (H.R. 6314): \$100 billion package of relief for renters. In addition, a national moratorium on evictions is needed to prevent a spike in homelessness. Also needed is an increase to the SNAP (food stamp) program of 15% to ease the current burden of hunger and end the question of "eat or pay rent?" Recently, the House passed a relief bill that included these aspects. It's time to ask your representatives to support these initiatives of hope and urge their colleagues in the Senate to pass this relief package.

This pandemic has shown us that it only takes one person becoming infected to spread the virus to all of us. This truth emphasizes the reality that each individual in our country, and in our world, matters. No one can be left behind. This plays out on the global stage as well. Every country is a part of the battle against this global pandemic. Fortunately, successful initiatives like the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB, and Malaria, and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance are on the front lines helping developing

countries to bring COVID-19 under control. Their proven experience in cutting deaths from the world's biggest killers (AIDS, TB, and Malaria) by over 30%, and cutting child deaths by 50% thanks to vaccinations, gives them credibility for continued funding from around the world, including America.

Although America spends less than one percent of its budget for foreign aid, Congress understands the importance of these initiatives and has consistently overridden the president's call for cuts to foreign aid, ensuring the U.S. does keep its pledge to fully fund these life-saving initiatives. This effort continues as Reps. Barbara Lee and Martha Roby created a sign-on letter calling for an additional \$1 billion for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB, and Malaria, to be included in any Phase 4 COVID-19 legislation. This special funding will keep the Global Fund battling global pandemics, including COVID-19. Asking our members of Congress to sign on to this letter will create the political will to make sure this and future battles are successful.

As Ebola, Zika and now COVID-19 have shown us, if we don't fight these pandemics globally, they will threaten us locally. Our calls, letters, and virtual visits to our representatives and senators can help pass these rescue measures and begin the fundamental changes in our system to create hope where there once was very little. The good news is these cracks were part of the system we created in this country, so that means we, the people, have the ability to create a new system that works for every American.

Willie Dickerson is a RESULTS volunteer in Snohomish, currently a member of the RESULTS Board, and most recent winner of the 2019 Cameron Duncan Media Award (first non-journalist to win).

<https://tacomaweekly.com/guest-editorial/it-is-time-to-fill-the-cracks-that-millions-of-americans-are-falling-through/>



Mr. Trump and the WHO

July 1, 2020

Mr. Trump's use of presidential power to deny funding to the World Health Organization (WHO) is extremely distressing.

His stated motivation is to get revenge for WHO for working closer with China than the United States during the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic. It is not clear what demands he has made on WHO, but he has declared that WHO did not meet his demands, so he is withdrawing US support.

This is a time when all programs that support health projects in the world need more support, not less. As individual countries turn their resources to manage the COVID-19 pandemic, WHO's ongoing programs that are battling AIDS, malaria, TB; providing vaccinations for polio, measles, etc.; and supporting clean water initiatives and other vital programs need our support.

Withdrawing financial support for Mr. Trump's stated reasons is mere bullying, not compassionate and financially sound management of the resources of our country.

I am writing letters to Rep. Denny Heck and Sens. Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell to request they reverse the US defunding of WHO, if possible. I will also remind them to be sure our current budget appropriations for the Global Fund for malaria, TB and AIDS, the Global Fund for Education, and GAVI (vaccination support for polio, measles, etc.) are provided and even increased at this time of COVID-19 strain on worldwide resources. Please join me.

Lorraine Barton-Haas, MD

<https://www.theolympian.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/article243903117.html>



COVID-19 HEALTH CRISIS: Senate stalling on passing Heroes Act

July 22, 2020

As the virus spikes in our county and state, we are reminded that this is a health crisis, with secondary economic effects. The House recognized this threat and passed the Heroes Act, with \$75 billion for local health departments, funding for frontline state and local governments, and rent and hunger relief. The Senate has yet to take action. Our calls, letters, and virtual visits to those who represent us can urge them to speak to leadership making sure these important aspects become a part of the relief bill that will hopefully pass before the August recess. In addition, funding for the global aspect of this global pandemic must be included if we are ever to beat this virus. This is the time to speak up, followed by voting. That is the way democracy works, each of us doing our part to make sure our government funds the relief for this crisis that helps every American.

Willie Dickerson

<http://www.snoho.com/html/letters.html>



Letter: Time to Call

July 31, 2020

It is a good thing our state and local governments stepped in when the White House didn't take the lead against the coronavirus. (The Daily Newsletters to the editor, July 26, 2020)

Now they need relief, along with relief for renters, the hungry, local health departments and other Covid-19-related problems covered in the House Heroes Act.

After waiting two months, the Senate is finally weighing in, unfortunately, they seem to have mostly forgotten who needs the help. Time to call, tweet, email and Facebook your senators, asking them to include these highlights from the House bill and add \$20 billion (less than one percent) support for the Global Fund, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, to help more than half the world battle this pandemic. After all, our only hope is to beat Covid globally to protect us locally.

Make your voice heard.

Willie Dickerson

https://tdn.com/opinion/letters/letters-time-to-call/article_f90e15ff-b586-5183-b602-b2c9953de95a.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=email&utm_campaign=user-share

Don't forget to vote by Tuesday

August 2, 2020

Thanks for the reminder and detailed process of how to register to be able to vote August 4. ('There's still time to register and vote in Aug. 4 primary election,' July 28)

Our number one privilege and responsibility in democracy is to vote. Right now, there is another critical opportunity in our democracy: speaking up to those who represent us in Congress to insure the next COVID-19 relief package helps where it is most needed.

The House Heroes Act did a good job of this two months ago, but the Senate is struggling right now to decide what to focus on in the relief bill. Without the House \$100 billion for rent relief and eviction moratorium, between 19 and 23 million Americans will face eviction by the end of September. The Heroes Act also funds state and local governments, along with public health departments, who are on the frontlines in the COVID battle. The Senate can agree to these important parts of the House legislation and add \$20 billion for global initiatives like the Global Fund and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, who are helping developing countries battle the virus. Since this is a global pandemic, we must beat it globally to protect us locally.

So, call, email, and tweet your senators and representatives and make sure they fund these critical needs.

Willie Dickerson

<https://www.kitsapsun.com/story/opinion/readers/2020/08/02/dont-forget-vote-tuesday/5568303002/>



Also, on guard against tuberculosis

August 17, 2020

" 'The Biggest Monster' Is Spreading. And It's Not the Coronavirus."

Tuberculosis kills 1.5 million people each year. Lockdowns and supply-chain disruptions threaten progress against the disease as well as H.I.V. and malaria.

The above headline in a recent New York Times article goes on to explain the devastating effects the pandemic has wreaked on low income countries. I encourage you to read it.

To prevent this from happening the United States needs to supply emergency aid. We cannot fail to help our neighbors who are suffering from lack of medical care and adequate nutrition. Please urge our members of Congress to include funding for the global response to the pandemic in their next stimulus bill. Soon!

Marty Bishop

<https://www.kitsapsun.com/story/opinion/readers/2020/08/17/also-guard-against-tuberculosis/3375646001/>



We can't give up on the fight against global poverty

September 4, 2020

Congress has adjourned without taking the step needed to help the people of the U.S. and the world handle the Covid-19 pandemic. This is unconscionable!

Worldwide people are at risk of health disasters due to the impacts of the Corona Virus. Millions of HIV/AIDs survivors and TB patients cannot get the medicines that keep them alive due to breakdowns in the production and distribution of those medicines. TB is not being diagnosed because the diagnostic equipment has been repurposed for Covid testing. Malaria bed nets cannot be distributed now because of the disruptions of Covid.

Millions of children are not receiving the vaccines they need to survive childhood. Children are not in school, distant or not. Hunger and malnutrition will likely double over 2020 and 2021. Children will suffer malnutrition and wasting that will impact them their entire lives.

The U.S. should provide \$20 billion to address the global impact of Covid-19. That's a mere one tenth of one percent of the compromise \$2 trillion dollars that the Democrats put on the table over a month ago. Surely our nation can spare one tenth of one percent for the rest of the world, especially the children.

Come back to work, Congress! Do your job! Help the American people and our economy survive the pandemic. And make sure that globally, children and populations have what they need to simply survive.

I urge everyone to let their Members of Congress know how important a comprehensive Covid Emergency bill is – for everyone!

Beth Wilson

<https://www.kitsapsun.com/story/opinion/readers/2020/09/04/we-cant-give-up-fight-against-global-poverty/5719465002/>



Congress needs to fund global distribution of Covid vaccine

September 13, 2020

A vaccine will certainly be welcome, but the distribution is just as important. ("Finding a vaccine is only part of the battle," The Herald, Aug. 30) Fortunately, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance is prepared with networks for distribution globally. In the next relief package, \$20 billion for global needs for Gavi, the Global Fund, and other initiatives will help battle this pandemic globally will protect us locally.

Time for the Senate to get back to work and pass this and the House Heroes Act. Until then the deaths, hunger, and homelessness will continue in our country and around the world.

Willie Dickerson

<https://www.heraldnet.com/opinion/congress-needs-to-fund-global-distribution-of-covid-vaccine/>



We can save lives by pushing for congressional action

May 12, 2020

America's public health and global health are definitely interconnected. ("Our handling of COVID-19 will have a global impact" by Margaret Krome, The Cap Times, April 28, 2020) A bipartisan group in Congress has consistently ignored the president's call for cuts to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB, and malaria and other global health initiatives.

A recent letter calling for an additional \$1 billion in funding for the Global Fund was signed by 105 representatives, from both parties. Of course, our representatives are more likely to follow through with this funding if they hear from constituents about global health being a critical factor in our public health.

Our calls, letters, and virtual visits can help to save millions of lives and help control pandemics before they reach our shores or return to them.

Willie Dickerson

https://madison.com/ct/opinion/mailbag/willie-dickerson-we-can-save-lives-by-pushing-for-congressional-action/article_12245ec9-ed70-54f2-bb37-90c8cbcd0c12.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=email&utm_campaign=user-share

Congress needs to act now

August 24, 2020

From April through July, more than 400 West Virginians reached out to my office to sign up for contact tracing and coronavirus pandemic response, a course developed in collaboration between the West Virginia University School of Public Health and the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources Bureau for Public Health.

In the midst of chaos and death, these ordinary people saw a need in their communities and set out to do what they could to help during this crisis.

Because of my experience working with these volunteers, it comes as no surprise to me that most Americans have the same outlook in fighting COVID-19 on a national and international scale. An NPR/Ipsos poll released earlier this month found broad support among Americans for a single, national strategy to address the pandemic and more aggressive measures to contain it.

But what good is wanting to help if our legislators will not work together? I agree with Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., that Congress' inability to come to any agreement on a supplemental coronavirus relief package is embarrassing.

Millions of low-income renters are under threat of eviction and homelessness in the United States. COVID-19 has cost millions of Americans their jobs. Faced with a loss of income, how are so many going to pay the rent? The Aspen Institute estimates that, without action from Congress, more than 30 million low-income renters are at risk of losing their homes. This includes our friends and neighbors here in West Virginia.

The pandemic is not only affecting people directly, it is undermining years of progress in fighting other diseases throughout the world, like tuberculosis and

HIV/AIDS. Millions of children are missing out on life-saving vaccines, and food insecurity and starvation also are rising fast.

A poll conducted by the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition in April found that more than three-quarters of Americans support the inclusion of funding for the State Department, the U.S. Agency for International Development, or USAID, and other agencies to fight COVID-19 globally to limit its spread to the United States.

Yet, in the face of dire need and overwhelming bipartisan voter support, Congress will not move.

This is unacceptable. We need a strong response now from our lawmakers in Washington, D.C., to deal with the immediate crisis of COVID-19 and strengthen health care systems worldwide. I urge Sens. Manchin and Shelley Moore Capito, R-W.Va., along with Reps. McKinley, Mooney and Miller, all R-W.Va., to do all they can to break the current stalemate and support an emergency deal that includes:

- \$100 billion in emergency rental assistance
- A national moratorium on evictions
- \$4 billion over two years for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria
- \$4 billion for Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance
- \$2 billion for anti-hunger efforts, including \$500 million for nutrition

Joanne DiStefano

https://www.wvgazettemail.com/opinion/op_ed_commentaries/joanna-distefano-congress-needs-to-act-now-opinion/article_aa546db7-2344-5536-ad3e-12f3ce8b01de.html



We need to address virus pandemic both here, abroad

April 15, 2020

Do you remember the Waldo Canyon Fire a few years ago? Houses made of fire-resistant materials set in perfectly “fire-scaped” yards burned to the ground when the fire (which had never reached them directly) got so hot the buildings and their contents simply burst into flames.

We need to learn the lesson as we deal with the current pandemic. We have to do what we can to take care of our own home, but we cannot ignore flames in the world around us.

Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, is already at work in the world. It has taken steps to help strengthen the preparedness of health systems in lower-income countries. It will be working closely with WHO, CEPI, World Bank, UNICEF and other partners for acceleration of the best-candidate vaccines with a focus on access and scale-up of production and delivery.

Using a country-led approach, Gavi is preparing now for deployment of a vaccine, even in the poorest and most remote parts of the world. And, as Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, chair of the Gavi Board, has said, “Routine immunization against other deadly diseases, like measles, polio, yellow fever and diphtheria also must continue – we cannot have two global outbreaks on our hands.” The Trump administration's budget proposal calls for appropriations of \$290 million for Gavi. Committees in both houses of Congress have indicated their support for that figure.

Write our members of Congress now to urge their support for that figure as a MINIMUM to help fight the fires of preventable diseases, highlighting Gavi's work to get ahead of the inferno that is COVID-19. This is something you can do, even from home.

Ann Erdmann, https://www.wyomingnews.com/opinion/letters_to_editor/we-need-to-address-covid-19-pandemic-both-here-and-abroad/article_f104fa23-2f45-5d6b-aed2-4a35740d6b81.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=email&utm_campaign=user-share