

**Statement from Charlotte Haberaecker,
President and CEO of [Lutheran Services in America](#)**

**in response to Senate passage of the Paycheck Protection Program
and Health Care Enhancement Act**

April 21, 2020

We appreciate the additional financial support in the Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act, passed by the Senate today, for forgivable loans for small businesses, including nonprofit health and human services providers with fewer than 500 employees. We also commend lawmakers for including in its legislation reimbursement for healthcare providers for COVID-19 related expenses and lost revenue, and await the House's related vote later this week.

However, while this legislation builds on the previous funding provided by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, additional support for nonprofit health and human services organizations whose workers are on the front lines caring for so many people in communities throughout America is increasingly needed, and will be imperative to include in subsequent legislation.

Building on the progress made so far, we are counting on all lawmakers to support and protect their constituents by including the following measures in their next bill to provide coronavirus-related relief on these fronts:

- Access to financial relief for health and human services nonprofits with over 500 employees via forgivable loans, modeled on the Paycheck Protection Program
- Targeted financial resources for nonprofit frontline health and human services providers via a new \$100 billion grant program to cover unreimbursed expenses attributable to the coronavirus public health emergency
- 100% reimbursement of the cost of unemployment insurance benefits paid by nonprofits who self-fund these benefits
- \$2 billion in additional funding for vulnerable youth and children through The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act and Title IV-E Chafee funds.

For further detail on these crucial items for America's nonprofit health and human services sector see our April 8th correspondence to Senate and House lawmakers [here](#).

Our 300 Lutheran health and human services organizations are on the frontlines fighting COVID-19 in over 1,400 communities in 46 states across the country, and are seeing firsthand how people's lives throughout America are depending on needed measures like these during this crisis. We urge Congress to ensure they are including in its next relief package.

For further information or additional comment from Charlotte Haberaecker, contact Jen Beltz at jbeltz@lutheranservices.org or (617) 780-0821.

About Lutheran Services in America

Lutheran Services in America is the national network of Lutheran social ministry organizations — connecting over 300 health and human services nonprofit service providers located

throughout the country. Recognized by *The Chronicle of Philanthropy* and *Forbes* as one of the nation's largest nonprofits, the Lutheran Services in America network operates with more than \$22 billion in annual revenue and over 250,000 member employees. Together, the network lifts up the nation's most vulnerable people from children to seniors — making a difference in the lives of one in 50 Americans every year. To learn more, please visit www.lutheranservices.org.