



April 27, 2020

Dear President Trump:

I write to you today on behalf of the one in 50 Americans who rely on the 300 nonprofit Lutheran health and human services providers in America that comprise the [Lutheran Services in America](#) network. I respectfully ask for your attention to [this memo](#) from the nonprofit sector outlining key actions needed from the Administration, and for your support for the life-saving work that nonprofit health and human services organizations like Lutheran social ministry organizations are providing throughout the COVID-19 crisis – despite severe workforce and equipment shortages, as well as limited cash reserves.

Lutheran social ministry organizations are on the frontlines every day fighting the COVID-19 pandemic and caring for the most vulnerable Americans—seniors, children, youth and families, veterans, people with disabilities, the homeless and more. Lutheran social ministry is doing extraordinary work protecting and caring for people in over 1,400 communities in 46 states. While most of the work has been less publicized than that of hospitals, they risk their lives every day caring for the most vulnerable.

As costs rise to protect and care for staff, clients and residents, and business continuation becomes an increasingly pressing issue, they simply cannot deliver the vital services needed now more than ever without additional resources. As such, we urge the Administration to take the following actions to support nonprofits to address critical needs now and as the country recovers:

- **SBA/Treasury:** Designate an equitable share of funding in the Paycheck Protection Program for nonprofits and expand eligibility to nonprofits with over 500 employees.
- **SBA:** Restore EIDL payouts to the higher levels authorized by the CARES Act.
- **Treasury:** Establish a loan program for nonprofits with up to 10,000 employees that would charge a low interest rate, apply extended maturity, defer principal and interest payments, and provide loan forgiveness.



- **Labor:** Issue clear guidance from the U.S. Department of Labor on treatment of reimbursement for benefits paid on behalf of self-insured nonprofits and other entities to prevent the imposition of crippling costs that are not imposed on other employers and that will lead to additional layoffs.
- **Government-Wide:** Designate points of contact for nonprofits in each federal department and agency for the purpose of troubleshooting.

Additionally, we ask the Administration to support the inclusion of the following provisions in future coronavirus relief legislation, as outlined in our [April 8 letter to Congress](#):

- **Access to Financial Relief for Health and Human Services Nonprofits with Over 500 Employees:** Appropriate \$200 million for forgivable loans for non-hospital nonprofits with 500 or more employees for payroll support, modeled on the Paycheck Protection Program.
- **Targeted Financial Resources for Nonprofit Front Line Health and Human Services Providers:** \$100 billion for a new program to provide grants to certain non-hospital health and human services nonprofits of any size to cover unreimbursed expenses attributable to the coronavirus public health emergency.

Thank you in advance for giving your time and rapid attention to this crucial issue. Our 300 Lutheran social ministry organizations and the one in 50 Americans we serve each year are counting on you during this historic pandemic.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charlotte Haberaecker".

Charlotte Haberaecker
President and CEO