

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

March 23, 2020

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leaders McConnell, McCarthy, and Schumer:

As Congress takes action today to finalize “Phase 3” legislation **responding to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19)**, the undersigned organizations, who are dedicated to protecting the health of children, families, and the most vulnerable in our nation, **strongly urge Congress to move legislation forward that includes least \$150 billion in direct aid to states for fiscal relief as they deploy their resources to address critical health needs and absorb the related economic crisis.**

The United States is facing a public health emergency greater than any we have seen in several generations. Moreover, the virus and the necessary social distancing measures made necessary to cope with its spread are already having profound impacts on the economy. Many experts warn our country may experience a deep recession. Additional state fiscal relief funding is critically needed to address public health demands, give states financial resources to cover COVID-19 related needs, and help states absorb the economic impact of this crisis, including preventing major state budget cuts and massive layoffs in state and local government at the worst possible time.

We also urge Congress to act swiftly and in the near-future to enact an additional, emergency increase of 12 percent to Federal Medicaid matching funds. These dollars would provide essential support to states as health care services are sought by the tens-of-millions of children, parents, people with disabilities and seniors that rely on Medicaid for health care services.

Our requests are on behalf of the people of this nation and are not rooted in political ideology. That is why these urgent recommendations also were **proposed and supported by the [nation’s Governors](#) on a bi-partisan basis.**

Congress must take immediate action. Public health experts both within and outside of the federal government warn that the virus outbreak is likely to substantially worsen in the coming days and weeks. The downstream economic effects are only beginning to be felt. **We implore Congress to act swiftly to address these priorities.**

Sincerely,

[Families USA is currently gathering hundreds of signatures and will update this list on an ongoing basis. Last updated 3/23/20 4:30pm]

National Groups

Families USA

1,000 Days

AFSCME

American Art Therapy Association

American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry

American Association for Marriage and Family
Therapy

American Association on Health and Disability

American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network

American Diabetes Association

American Foundation for Suicide Prevention

American Kidney Fund

American Lung Association

American Muslim Health Professionals

American Psychological Association

American Public Health Association

Association for Ambulatory Behavioral Healthcare

Association for Community Affiliated Plans

Association of Asian Pacific Community Health
Organizations

Autism Society of America

Bazon Center for Mental Health Law

Benefits Data Trust

Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)

Center for Public Representation

Center for Medicare Advocacy

Center for the Study of Social Policy

Children's Defense Fund

Coalition on Human Needs

Coalition on Positive Health Empowerment

Community Catalyst

Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good
Shepherd, U.S. Provinces

Cystic Fibrosis Foundation

Epilepsy Foundation

Faces & Voices of Recovery

Family Centered Treatment Foundation

First Focus Campaign for Children

GLMA: Health Professionals Advancing LGBTQ
Equality

Global Alliance for Behavioral Health and Social
Justice

GO2 Foundation for Lung Cancer

Health Care for America Now

Health Leads

Hemophilia Federation of America

Human Rights Campaign

International Union, United Automobile,
Aerospace & Agricultural Implement
Workers of America (UAW)

Justice in Aging

Lakeshore Foundation

LeadingAge

Leukemia & Lymphoma Society

Lupus and Allied Diseases Association, Inc.

March of Dimes

Muscular Dystrophy Association

NAACP

National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS
Directors (NASTAD)

National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the
Good Shepherd

National Alliance on Mental Illness

National Association for Children's Behavioral
Health

National Association for Rural Mental Health
(NARMH)

National Association of Area Agencies on Aging

National Association of Councils on

Developmental

Disabilities

National Association of County Behavioral Health
& Developmental Disability Directors

National Association of Free and Charitable
Clinics

National Birth Equity Collaborative

National Black Child Development Institute

National Center for Transgender Equality

National Center on Adoption and Permanency

National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship

National Consumers League

National Council for Behavioral Health

National Council of Gray Panthers Networks

National Council of Jewish Women

National Disability Rights Network

National Eating Disorders Association

National Employment Law Project
National Federation of Families for Children's
Mental Health
National Health Law Program
National Hemophilia Foundation
National Multiple Sclerosis Society
National Partnership for Women & Families
National Register of Health Service Psychologists
National Respite Coalition
National WIC Association
National Women's Health Network
National Women's Law Center
NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice
Not Dead Yet
Physicians for Reproductive Health
Planned Parenthood Federation of America
Postpartum Support International
Power to Decide
Prevent Blindness
Provincial Council Clerics of St. Viator
Public Advocacy for Kids (PAK)
Raising Women's Voices for the Health Care We
Need
RESULTS
Service Employees International Union (SEIU)
SMART Recovery
Society for Public Health Education
Starr Commonwealth
Susan G. Komen
The AIDS Institute
The Arc of the United States
The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human
Rights
The National Alliance to Advance Adolescent
Health
Treatment Communities of America
Triage Cancer
United Way Worldwide
Young Invincibles
Youth Villages

State Groups

Alabama

Vietnamese Initiative to Empower Communities

Alaska

Alaska Children's Trust

Arkansas

Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families
Sources, Inc

California

California Consortium of Addiction Programs &
Professionals

California Pan-Ethnic Health Network
Centro Binacional para el Desarrollo Indigena
Oaxaqueño

CRLA Foundation

Family Care Network, Inc.

Maternal and Child Health Access

VISION Y COMPROMISO

WestCoast Children's Clinic

Congress of California Seniors

Street Level Health Project

Colorado

Center for Health Progress

Colorado Children's Campaign

Colorado Consumer Health Initiative

The Consortium

Connecticut

Universal Health Care Foundation of Connecticut

Florida

Catalyst Miami Inc.

Farmworker's Self-Help

Florida Center for Fiscal and Economic Policy

Greater Tampa Bay Oral Health Coalition

North Florida Educational Development

Corporation

Idaho

Idaho Oral Health Alliance

Illinois

Heartland Alliance

Illinois Association of Behavioral Health

Indivisible Illinois

Legal Council for Health Justice

Protect Our Care Illinois

Kentucky

Kentucky Voices for Health

Louisiana

Disability Rights Louisiana

Lawyer's Reentry Consulting

Maryland

Maryland Citizens' Health Initiative

Massachusetts

Massachusetts Law Reform Institute

Michigan

Michigan Council for Maternal and Child Health

Michigan League for Public Policy

TrueNorth Community Services

Minnesota

Let's Smile, Inc.

Minnesota Oral Health Coalition

Mississippi

Mississippi Health Advocacy Program

Missouri

Empower Missouri

Nebraska

Children's Hospital & Medical Center

Nebraska Appleseed

Nevada

Immunize Nevada

New Jersey

New Jersey Association of Mental Health and
Addiction Agencies, Inc.

New Jersey Policy Perspective

New York

Families Together in New York State

Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies, Inc.

North Carolina

Goldsboro Pediatrics, PA

Oklahoma

Oklahoma Policy Institute

Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania Council of Churches

South Carolina

SC Appleseed Legal Justice Center

Tennessee

League of Women Voters of Nashville

Tennessee Justice Center

Texas

Center for Public Policy Priorities

Children's Defense Fund – Texas

Coalition of Texans with Disabilities

National Association of Social Workers - Texas
Chapter

Texans Care for Children

Utah

Epilepsy Foundation Utah

Utah Health Policy Project

Voices for Utah Children

Virginia

Virginia Organizing

Washington

Arcora Foundation

Northwest Harvest

Surge Reproductive Justice

The Washington Chapter of the American
Academy of Pediatrics

West Virginia

West Virginians for Affordable Health Care

Wisconsin

Community Development Authority

Wisconsin Faith Voices for Justice