

The essential need for further relief

President-elect Joe Biden

Vice President-elect Kamala Harris

Dear President-elect Biden and Vice President-elect Harris:

Right now someone dies in this country every 30 seconds from COVID and it will be months before most Americans have access to a vaccine. We are also experiencing the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression, with tens of millions either unemployed, out of the labor force, or experiencing a decline in hours and pay since March, and millions facing eviction and food insecurity. There's been no aid since March for our cash-strapped states and local communities, no money to pay for essential services we rely on for recovery.

Given the horrific extent of the escalating crisis and the desperation that working families all over this country are experiencing, the congressional relief package just passed does not go anywhere near far enough in providing relief to people across the country. A one-time \$600 check and eleven weeks of unemployment benefits won't last families and small businesses long or make up for the months without support as families waited for the deal to be struck. And particularly for Black and Brown families that have been hit hardest by the virus and the recession, it is only a down payment on the shovel to start digging them out of the hole. We need a robust COVID-19 relief package to meet the immediate crisis and a large stimulus package to fix the pandemic economy.

We must be clear that the band-aid passed in December was just the beginning and your administration and the next Congress will need to do much more. To truly build back better, we need fully expanded unemployment insurance and recurring direct stimulus payments that include immigrant families and adult dependents, both lasting until the economy recovers. We need to expedite aid to our states, cities, towns and tribal lands to protect essential jobs and services and prevent another massive wave of layoffs. America cannot recover without health care assistance, an eviction moratorium and cancellation of rent & mortgages, paid family and medical leave, and many other supports.

People who can barely make ends meet and are going without food, medicines and electricity cannot afford to be held hostage to political games in Washington or partisan gridlock. They need steady and regular relief, tied to economic conditions.

The need is urgent. The response must be bold. We urge your leadership and pledge our own efforts to pass a relief bill in the first days of your administration that is truly at the scale of the crisis, to combat the virus and build an economy that works for everyone.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

115 national, state and local organizations. See the full list of signers on the next page.

Full List of Signers

National Organizations

9to5	Mayors for a Guaranteed Income
A Better Balance	MoveOn
Action Corps	National Domestic Workers Alliance
American Federation of Teachers (AFT)	National Employment Law Project
American Sustainable Business Council	National Nurses United
Americans for Democratic Action (ADA)	National Partnership for Women & Families
Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance, AFL-CIO	National Women's Law Center
Bend the Arc Jewish Action	NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice
Brave New Films	Oil Change International
Care in Action	Paid Leave for All
Caring Across Generations	ParentsTogether Action
Center for American Progress	People's Action
Center for Parental Leave Leadership	PL+US: Paid Leave for the United States
Center for Popular Democracy	Poder Latinx
CEPR	Pre-Health Dreamers
Children's HealthWatch	Presente.org
Coalition on Human Needs	Pride at Work
Common Defense	Public Citizen
Community Change Action	PUBLIC RESULTS
Daily Kos	SEIU
Democracy for America	Shriver Center on Poverty Law
Dream Corps	Social Security Works
Earth Ethics, Inc.	Springboard To Opportunities
Economic Policy Institute	Sunrise Movement
Economic Security Project	Tax March
Forward Together	The Forum for Youth Investment
Gerald Huff Fund for Humanity	The People's Bailout
Greenpeace USA	UltraViolet
Groundwork Collaborative	United for Respect
Heartland Alliance	United We Dream
High Ground Institute	Universal Income Project
Income Movement	UsAgainstAlzheimer's
Indivisible	Voices for Progress
Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy	Women's March
LatinxVoice	Working Families Party
Main Street Alliance	Young Invincibles
Marked By COVID	

State and Local Organizations

9to5 Colorado	Citizen Action of Wisconsin
AFGE Local 704	CLUE Justice
Battle Born Progress (Nevada)	Community Advocates Public Policy Institute
Bet Tzedek Legal Services	Compass Family Services
California Immigrant Policy Center	

Community Housing Partnership
Delivering Innovation in Supportive Housing
(DISH)
Dolores Street Community Services
GLIDE
Golden State Opportunity
Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee
Rights
Indivisible Brookfield
Indivisible DuPage
Indivisible Evanston
Indivisible Illinois
Indivisible Western Springs
Inland Coalition for Immigrant Justice
Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement
JASC
Legal Aid at Work
Los Angeles Regional Food Bank
Milwaukee Area Service & Hospitality
Workers Organization

Mothering Justice
National Association of Social Workers
(NASW) California Chapter
NEFFCON-IE
Neighbors Who Vote
New Jersey Citizen Action
New Jersey Tenants Organization
ONE Northside
Rainbow Pride Youth Alliance
San Francisco-Marin Food Bank
SEIU Healthcare Wisconsin
The People's Lobby
United Vision for Idaho
WISDOM
Women Employed
Women's Law Project
WV Citizen Action Education Fund