## September 12, 2023

## Dear Senator/Representative:

The 681 undersigned organizations urge you to fulfill Congress' most basic duty: to keep the government running. Congress must pass a clean bipartisan, bicameral continuing resolution (CR) including emergency funding that supports current services and addresses urgent needs and is free of poison pill policy riders that are harmful and irrelevant to the functions of government. Such a CR will ensure that federal programs continue to serve essential needs while Congress works in good faith to finish FY24 funding legislation needed to provide for a robust, stable economy and a secure nation by sufficiently supporting the vital services that help our communities thrive.

Shutdowns harm our nation's overall economy, the financial security of individuals and families, government efficiency, and the public's access to needed services. A shutdown would put the nation's economy at risk, delay or interrupt services to millions, and disrupt the jobs of over a million workers, making it harder for people to put food on the table, a roof over their heads, and stay safe and healthy. A shutdown would make vulnerable communities including people of color more at risk and result in their disproportionate harm. For those concerned about government waste, shutdowns, especially protracted shutdowns, could cost taxpayers billions of dollars even while basic government functions that taxpayers need experience interruptions - whether public health services during flu season, air safety and travel needs, food for children and families or protecting our communities' safety.

Looking ahead, it is not enough to simply stave off a shutdown. Congress must consider and address the nation's urgent funding needs by reaching an agreement on final FY 24 appropriations legislation. Despite the budget levels set in the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023, which in itself presents funding challenges for many programs and services on which we all rely, the House has drafted FY24 budget bills that violate the spirit of the agreement by including draconian cuts to non-defense discretionary spending, hundreds of poison pill policy riders, and significant recissions that, for example, would undermine our nation's fight against climate change and the ability of the IRS to hold wealthy tax cheats accountable.

The Senate Appropriations Committee has passed 12 bipartisan appropriations bills that are consistent with the bi-partisan spirit of the agreement negotiated by Speaker McCarthy and President Biden. We thank Senate Appropriations Committee Chair Patty Murray and Vice Chair Susan Collins for recognizing the need to add \$13.7 billion in emergency spending, exempt from the limits set in the debt-limit deal. This is a critical first step to recognize that the funding caps are unrealistic and harmful and that in the future, the appropriations process should start from what agencies and our communities actually require, not arbitrary numbers that are untethered from the realities of what the nation needs.

While nondefense appropriations are a small part of the federal budget, less than one-sixth, they fund a wide range of important programs and services that make America run. Examples include: assistance with housing and child care for low-income families, rural development, support for education and job training, scientific and medical research, medical care, veterans' services, aging services, environmental protections so we can breathe clean air and drink clean water, substance use disorder and mental health treatment, infrastructure investments including sewage treatment, public transportation systems and safe roads, flood control and navigation improvements, diplomacy, humanitarian aid and development,

courts and reentry programs, public safety programs, assistance for small businesses, and many other programs to strengthen our communities.

Federal investments make our states, counties, cities, and towns run efficiently and serve public needs. States rely on federal investments for more than one-third of their budgets, to ensure the availability of essential services to workers, retirees, people with disabilities, and families. State and local governments are already facing cliffs as significant pandemic aid ends this fiscal year while urgent needs persist. Additional discretionary cuts coupled with this cliff would be deeply harmful.

In summary, our country needs Congress to push past the chaos and focus on the basics: keeping the government running and passing funding bills that place the needs of Americans and the public interest first.

Signed,

(U-CHAN)Uniting Citizens for Housing Affordability in Newton 5 C ministries ABLE NH About Fresh ACA Consumer Advocacy Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Access Technologies, Inc. Action NC ADAP Advocacy Association Advocacy Institute African American Health Alliance **AFSCME Council 5 AFSCME Council 57 AFSCME Council 61 AFSCME Council 65 AFSCME Council 91 AFSCME Council 93** AFSCME Local 1497 **AFSCME Local 1600 AFSCME Local 1659 AFSCME Local 1668** AFSCME Local 312 AFSCME Ohio Council 8, AFSCME, AFL-CIO After the Harvest Ahri Center **AIDS Foundation Chicago** Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program Alaska Multiple Chemical Association Alaska Wilderness League Alchemist CDC All Our Kin

All4Ed

- Alliance for a Just Society
- Alliance for Community Transformations
- Alliance for Period Supplies
- Alliance for Retired Americans
- Alliance to Reclaim Our Schools
- ALMA Chicago
- Amador Tuolumne Community Action Agency
- American Association of Colleges of Nursing
- American Association of People with Disabilities
- American Association of University Women
- American Bird Conservancy
- American Federation of Government Employees, AFL-CIO
- American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)
- American Federation of Teachers
- American Friends Service Committee
- American Geriatrics Society
- American Indian Higher Education Consortium
- American Library Association
- American Psychological Association Services, Inc.
- Americans for Democratic Action (ADA)
- Amherst Survival Center
- Ann Arbor Housing Commission
- Anti-Hunger & Nutrition Coalition
- APIAHF
- Area Agencies on Aging Association of MI
- Area Agency on Aging of Northwest MI
- Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan
- Arizona Association of County School Superintendents
- Arizona Center for Disability Law
- Arizona Center for Economic Progress
- Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence
- Arizona Council of Human Service Providers
- Arizona Food Bank Network
- Arizona Students' Association
- Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families
- Arkansas Community Organizations
- Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence
- Asian Resources, Inc
- Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology
- Association of American Cancer Institutes
- Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO)
- Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs (AFOP)
- Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents (ALAS)

Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs Association of People Supporting Employment First (APSE) Association of Population Centers Association of Public and Land-grant Universities Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO) Association of State And Territorial Health Officials Association of University Centers on Disabilities Autism Society of America Autistic Self Advocacy Network **Battle Born Progress BCTGM International Union** Bekhita center **Bethel Area Food Shelf Big Cities Health Coalition** Blue Ridge Community Action, Inc **Branches Long Island** Bread for the World Breaking the Cycle drop corp Brightpoint Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen Bucks County Women's Advocacy Coalition California Association of Food Banks California Council of the Blind Camden Mission SDA Church **Candler County Schools** CAPPA Children's Foundation **Caring Across Generations CCWRO** CDR **Center for Community Progress** CENTER FOR EMPLOYMENT TRAINING Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP) Center for Responsible Lending Center for Science in the Public Interest Central California Food Bank CESA 2 **Champlain Islands Food Shelf Chester County Food Bank** Child & Family Resources, Inc Child Care Law Center Child Welfare League of America Children's Action Alliance Children's Defense Fund

Children's HealthWatch Children's Institute, Inc. Children's Service Society of Utah Children's Trust Fund Alliance Church of Scientology National Affairs Office Church of St Francis Xavier **Church World Service** Citizen Action of New York Citizen Action/Illinois **Clean Water Action** Clearinghouse on Women's Issues Clover (formerly Kingsley House) COAD Coalition for Juvenile Justice **Coalition on Human Needs** Coastal Bend Ctr for Independent Living Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning Colorado Consumer Health Initiative Committee for Children **Common Sense Media Community Access National Network Community Action Partnership Community Action Southold Town Community Catalyst Community Change Action** Community Food Warehouse of Mercer County Community ser sda ComPostPylonAmerica Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, U.S. Provinces **Connecticut Alliance of Foster and Adoptive Families Connecticut Citizen Action Group Consortium of Social Science Associations Consumer Action Cornerstone Community Action Agency** Council of Administrators of Special Education Council of the Great City Schools **Council on Social Work Education Creating Opportunities Crest Collaborative** DC Coalition Against Domestic Violence DC Office of the Tenant Advov Des Moines Area Religious Council (DMARC) **Desire Community Housing corp Disability Law Center** 

Disability Law Center of Alaska **Disability Law Center of Utah Disability Law Colorado Disability Rights Arkansas Disability Rights California Disability Rights Center - NH Disability Rights Iowa Disability Rights Michigan Disability Rights Nebraska Disability Rights New Mexico Disability Rights New York Disability Rights North Carolina Disability Rights Oregon Disability Rights Pennsylvania Disability Rights South Carolina Disability Rights South Dakota Disability Rights Vermont Disability Rights Wisconsin Drug Policy Alliance** East Bay Housing Organizations East Bay Sanctuary Covenant (EBSC) **Economic Policy Institute EDGE Consulting Partners** Educare Learning Network Educate. Advocate. **Education Reform Now** El Refugio, Inc. Embrace Services, Inc. **Empire Justice Center** Employment & Employer Services (E&ES) **Empower Next Generations** End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin End Hunger Connecticut! **Endangered Species Coalition Equal Rights Advocates Equality California Esperanza United** Fair and Just Prosecution Faith Mission Inc. **Famicos Foundation** Family Centered Treatment Foundation Family Values @ Work Feeding New York State Fellowship Baptist Church of Wyandanch

**FIND Food Bank** First Focus Campaign for Children Florida Alliance for Retired Americans (FLARA) Florida Policy Institute Florida Rising Fontana USD Food Bank for the Heartland Food Bank of Central New York Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano Food Bank of the Southern Tier Food Bank of Western Massachusetts Food for People Food Research & Action Center (FRAC) Food Share of Ventura County Forest Park District 91 Foster Care Alumni of America **Foster Care to Success** Found House IHN Franciscan Action Network Franciscan Peace Center Franklin Primary Health Center, Inc Free Community Meal Freedom from the street Friends Committee on National Legislation Friends of the Earth **Full Plates Full Potential Futures Without Violence** GA Coalition Against Domestic Violence Gaithersburg HELP GenZOregonizers Georgia Advocacy Office Georgia Budget and Policy Institute **GRACE/End Child Poverty California** Granite State Independent Living **Greater Boston Legal Services** Greater Philadelphia Coalition Against Hunger **Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank** Habitat for Humanity Chicago HANDS (Helping and Nurturing Diverse Seniors) Harmony Helping Hands Food Pantry Hawai'i Coalition for Immigrant Rights Hawaii Children's Action Network Speaks! Head Start Health Care for America Now (HCAN)

Health Care Voices Health Imperatives Inc Healthcare Alternative Systems (HAS) Healthy Teen Network HIGH IMPACT Mission-Based Consulting & Training His Pantry at Sacred Heart St Francis **HIV Medicine Association** Home Grown Homeless Action Center Homeless Advocacy for All Honest Arizona **Housing Action Illinois Housing Assistance Council** Houston Immigration Legal Services Collaborative Human Rights Campaign Human Service Chamber of Franklin County Human Services Center Mon Valley Hunger Action Los Angeles Hunger Free Colorado Hunger Free Vermont Idaho Hunger Relief Task Force **IL Hunger Coalition** Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence Impact Fund Income Movement Indiana Coalition to End Sexual Assault and Human Trafficking (ICESAHT) Indiana Disability Rights Indivisible Georgia Coalition Indy Hunger Network Inland Equity Community Land Trust **Innocence Project** Interfaith Power & Light International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers (IFPTE) International Organization of Masters, Mates & Pilots International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Iowa Citizen Action Network Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence Iowa Hunger Coalition **IRBC Food Pantry** ISAIAH Islamic Relief USA

- Island Harvest Food Bank
- Japanese American Citizens League

Jeremiah's Inn Jewish Family & Children's Service of Greater Boston Jewish Family Service of Colorado Jewish Women International (JWI) John Graham Housing & Services John Griffiths Johnson Park Center (JPC) Just Harvest Justice in Aging Kansas School Superintendent Asso. Kentucky Center for Economic Policy Kentucky Protection and Advocacy Kids Above All Kids and Car Safety **Kitchen Soup Project Knowledge Alliance** Knowledgepanel L.I. Against Domestic Violence Ladles of Hope Lakeside Community Committee Latino Action Network Foundation LeadingAge League of Conservation Voters League of Women Voters of St. Lawrence County, New York Little Lobbyists LiveAbility LLC Livingston County Senior Nutrition/ Meals on Wheels Long Beach Gray Panthers Long Island Council of Churches Los Angeles Regional Food Bank Low Income Investment Fund Lynn Housing Authority and Neighborhood Development Main Street Alliance Maine Center for Economic Policy Maine Children's Alliance Maine People's Alliance March On / Future Coalition Mary House, Inc Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence Massachusetts Law Reform Institute Massachusetts Organization of Educational Collaboratives Massachusetts Peace Action Maternal and Child Health Access

Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger McGraw community food pantry Mendocino Food & Nutrition Program INC, dba Fort Bragg Food Bank MENTOR Mercy Housing Methodist Action Program Metropolitan Interfaith Council on Affordable Housing Mexico (NY) Food Pantry MICAH Michigan AFSCME Council 25 **Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness Michigan Disability Rights Coalition** Michigan Long Term Care Ombudsman Program MIDDLE ISLAND COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY Minneapolis Highrise Representative Council Minnesota Disability Law Center at Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid Mississippi Coalition Against Domestic Violence Mohawk Valley CAA Mommieactivist and Sons MomsRising Mono County Office of Education Monsoon Asians & Pacific Islanders in Solidarity Montana Conservation Corps Morris and New Berlin First UMC's Mountainland Head Start, Inc. **MS Human Services Coalition** Musikanten Inc Mustard Seed Food Pantry NACEDA NAPE Natchez Housing Authority National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research National Alliance to End Sexual Violence National Association for Family Child Care National Association for Music Education National Association for Pupil Transportation National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities National Association of County and City Health Officials National Association of Federal Veterinarians National Association of Local Housing Finance Agencies National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners National Association of School Psychologists

National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) National Association of Social Workers National Association of Workforce Boards National Center for Healthy Housing National Center for Learning Disabilities National Center for Parent Leadership, Advocacy, and Community Empowerment (National PLACE) National Child Care Association National Coalition for the Homeless National Coalition of STD Directors National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare National Community Action Partnership National Community Development Association National Council for Community and Education Partnerships National Council of Jewish Women National Council of Jewish Women, PA National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges National Disability Rights Network (NDRN) National Education Association (NEA) National Employment Law Project National Energy Assistance Directors Association National Head Start Association National Health Law Program National Homelessness Law Center National Housing Law Project National Housing Resource Center National Immigration Law Center NATIONAL INDIAN COUNCIL ON AGING National Juvenile Justice Network National Leased Housing Association National Low Income Housing Coalition National Network to End Domestic Violence National Organization for Women National Partnership for Women & Families National Resource Center on Domestic Violence National Respite Coalition National Rural Education Advocacy Consortium National Rural Education Association National Skills Coalition National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable (NVHR) National WIC Association National Women's Health Network National Women's Law Center Native American Disability Law Center Natural Resources Defense Council

NC WAT NCH NCNW- National Council of Negro Women Inc. Nebraska Appleseed Neighbor to family, INC Neighborhood Improvement Association NEK-CAP, Inc. **NEKTI Consulting NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice** Nevada Association of School Superintendents Nevada Public Health Association **New Hampshire Hunger Solutions** New Hampshire Legal Assistance New Jersey Association on Correction New Jersey Coalition to End Domestic Violence New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence New York State Public Health Association Niagara Community Action Program, Inc Nonprofit Finance Fund Norfolk Raymondville Food Pantry/ Community Lunch Program for Kids North Dakota Protection & Advocacy Project Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont Northland Community Services Coalition Northwell Health Northwest Harvest Nourish California NYSSBA NSBA **OAPSE/AFSCME Local 4** OC Food Bank OC Food Bank - Community Action Partnership of Orange County **OCEAN FUTURES SOCIETY** Office of Protection & Advocacy Ohio Association of Foodbanks Ohio Domestic Violence Network Ohio Head Start Association, Inc. Oklahoma Disability Law Center, Inc. **Omni Center for Peace Justice Ecology OpenSky Policy Institute Oregon Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence Oregon Women's Rights Coalition** Our Children Oregon **Our Daily Bread Outward Bound USA** P.O.S.T protect our stolen treasures

PA Council of Children, Youth & Family Services PAI Parents as Teachers ParentsTogether Action Partners For a Hunger-Free Oregon Partners in Care Foundation Path to Progress Pathfinders Milwaukee, Inc. Peace, Justice, Sustainability NOW People First Wisconsin **People Power United People's Action PFLAG National** Philadelphia Solar Energy Association **Piedmont Habitat Pittsburgh Food Policy Council** Planned Parenthood Federation of America **Plymouth Church Food Pantry** Poverty Project at the Institute for Policy Studies PrEP4All Prepare + Prosper **Prevent Blindness** Prism Health North Texas Private citizen Professional Aviation Safety Specialists, AFL-CIO **Progress Iowa Prosperity Indiana Prosperity Now** PSI Alaska Public Advocacy for Kids (PAK) Public Citizen **Public Health Solutions Public Justice Center Rachel Carson Council Rebuild America's Schools** Red Jen Ford Health & Wellness **Redfield Food Pantry** Region IV Area Agency on Aging **Rehoboth Fellowship Center Reproductive Health Impact Resource Connection Food Bank** RESULTS **RESULTS DC/MD RESULTS** Iowa

**RESULTS Kitsap RESULTS Ohio** Resurrection House, Inc. Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence **Rise Up WV Roosevelt Freeport Church of Christ** RootsAction.org Ruth's Harvest Pantry **Ryan White Medical Providers Coalition** Safe & Sound Safe States Alliance Safer Foundation Safety Net Project of the WilmerHale Legal Services Center of Harvard Law School San Diego for Every Child San Francisco AIDS Foundation San Francisco-Marin Food Bank Sanctuary of Hope LA Sayra and Neil Meyerhoff Center for Families, Children and the Courts School Administrators of South Dakota School Social Work Association of America SchoolHouse Connection SEASCAT Seaway Valley Prevention Council/Horizons Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County (CA) Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Cruz County Second Harvest of Silicon Valley SERRC Service Employees International Union SEWA-AIFW Share The Wealth Productions Sheldon Methodist Church Food Shelf Sisters of Charity of Nazareth Western Province Leadership Sisters of Charity of Seton Hill Sisters of Charity, BVM Sisters of Mercy of the Americas Justice Team Sisters of St. Joseph Healthcare Foundation Social Security Works Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine Society for Public Health Education Society of St. Vincent de Paul St. Leo Conf. Sojourners Soup to Nuts Soup Kitchen South Carolina Program for Infant/Toddler Care South Central Community Action Programs

Southern Poverty Law Center Action Fund Southwest Fair Housing Council SRC Food Pantry ST BONIFACE CHURCH St Boniface Martyr Church Sea Cliff St Martin of Tours Parish Outreach St. Bernard Parish Social Ministry St. Kilian PSM Outreach St. Lawrence County Community Development Program, Inc. St. Martin of Tours Parish Outreach St. Nicholas Food Pantry St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, New Hartford, NY Start Early Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future Stop ? No More Streets Strategies for Youth Sunnyside Community Services Susan G. Komen Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children Tennessee Disability Coalition - WorkABLE TN Texas Council of Administrators of Special Education The Affordable Homes Group, Inc. The AIDS Institute The Arc Michigan The Arc Minnesota Chapter/Certified Partner's in Policymaking Class 31 The Collaborative The Economic Progress Institute The Education Trust The Episcopal Church The Family Place Parent Child Center The Food Trust the Forum for Youth Investment The Greater Boston Food Bank The Gubbio Project The Journey Forward The Kelsey The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights The National Domestic Violence Hotline The Skyline Charitable Foundation The United Methodist Church - General Board of Church and Society The Vermont Foodbank The Women's Building The Womxn Project The Workers Circle

Think Babies NC Alliance TOOTRIS **Transport Workers Union of America Transportation Trades Department Tri-County Office on Aging** Trinity County Office of Education **Trinity Youth Services** UnidosUS Union for Reform Judaism Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice UNITE HERE United Church of Christ, Justice and Witness Ministries **United Steelworkers** Unity Church of San Leandro University of California Student Association URGE: Unite for Reproductive and Gender Equity USAging **Utahns Against Hunger** VALOR Vermont Care Partners VI Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Council Violence Free Minnesota Virginia Hunger Solutions a project of Virginia Poverty Law Center Virginia Organizing Vision for Equality VOICES for Alabama's Children Voices of Hope, Inc. - Maryland Washington Defender Association Washington State Association of Head Start and ECEAP Washington State Budget and Policy Center Washington State Parent Ambassadors Washington State School Directors' Association Waterville Area Food Pantry Waterville NY Food Pantry WAVE Educational Fund We All Rise Wesley Pantry West Central Initiative West Virginia Citizen Action Group Wisconsin Early Childhood Association Wisconsin Faith Voices for Justice Witnesses To Hunger NH Women's Initiative for Self Empowerment Women's Institute for a Secure Retirement

Women's Media Center WomenRising, Inc. Worcester County Food Bank, Inc. Workforce Development Board HMO, NY Wurzbacher and Associates Wyoming Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault WZA Consultant Yoga For Peace, Justice, Harmony With the Planet - Amazing Amy: Eccentric Yoga Entertainer Youth Advocate Programs, Inc. Youth First Justice Collaborative Young Invincibles **YWCA Alliance** YWCA Cambridge YWCA Central Carolinas YWCA Champaign County YWCA Clark County YWCA Dayton YWCA Delaware YWCA Golden Gate Silicon Valley YWCA Great Falls YWCA La Crosse YWCA Northeastern Massachusetts YWCA of NWO YWCA of Van Wert County YWCA Pierce County YWCA San Diego County YWCA South Hampton Roads YWCA Ulster County YWCA USA YWCA Yakima YWCA's of New York State ZERO TO THREE ZeroV