Email Subject Line: Don’t Bar Nonprofits from COVID Stimulus

**I’m writing today to urgently request that the next COVID-19 relief package works to address the sudden financial needs for the nation’s nonprofit, human services organizations. As front-line responders to mental health and child and family safety concerns, these organizations have to adapt quickly to the storm this crisis is just beginning to create.** While other types of businesses and institutions face the effects of people no longer being able to come through their doors, the 218,000 community-based nonprofits in our country will see a dramatic influx of need.

**Like fire fighters, community-based nonprofits are essential service providers in the unique position of moving toward the problems that the COVID-19 pandemic creates instead of isolating away from them. As employers, community-based nonprofits contribute to the economy, nationwide, at the same level as the $200 billion airline industry.**

**We urgently ask that you:**

* **Expressly include community-based nonprofits** in the $200 billion loan fund for businesses, including airlines. The nonprofit sector needs an immediate infusion of $60 billion and the loan program is a fast way to get cash in the hands of organizations serving immediate needs in communities, while facing loss and increased financial demands due to the pandemic.
* **Clarify that community-based nonprofits of all sizes are able to participate** in the emergency Small Business Loan Program by using the tax-law definition of charitable organizations (Sec. 501(c)(3) public charities) and removing the language that excludes community-based nonprofits that are eligible to receive Medicaid reimbursements.
* **Improve the above-the-line charitable deduction** by raising the cap to $2,000 and allowing all taxpayers to immediately claim the deduction on their 2019 taxes (due on July 15), and afterwards through 2021.

Responding to the new realities children and families face places stress and demand on nonprofit operating budgets that was not previously anticipated. For that reason, Congress must ensure there are economic measures for nonprofit human services organizations on par with those for small businesses and corporate industries.

These loan funds will be used right away to make sure there are people in place to heal and treat trauma, mental health needs and substance use disorders, get computers and internet access to foster youth so they don’t fall behind as schools go online, and stabilize housing for children whose parents can no longer safely care for them, so they don’t end up homeless or self-isolating in offices.

Thank You,

[INSERT SIGNATURE BLOCK AND CONTACT INFORMATION]