

Virtual Advocacy Summit

Wednesday, March 21st

The poor and vulnerable around the world don't have a DC lobby firm, and unless Congress hears from you, poverty-focused foreign assistance could be slashed. We need **champions like you** to defend child nutrition and health programs so that life-changing and life-saving funding can continue to reach those who need it most.

Make the Call:

- Call **1-855-607-0531** and ask for your member of Congress
- Ask your members to **support funding for global nutrition and child health programs**. Ask them to add their name on the congressional sign-on letter urging continued U.S. leadership to end childhood malnutrition and preventable deaths in the State, Foreign Operations Appropriations Bill. (Scroll down for tips and a sample script.)
- Repeat these steps three times: One call for your Representative, and one call to each of your two Senators.



Sample Call Script

Hi, my name is _____, and I'm a constituent. I'm calling to ask [Rep./Sen.'s name] to support funding for global nutrition and child health in the State, Foreign Operations Appropriations Bill. I'm a supporter of Save the Children

Every day, approximately 1,000 women die from preventable causes related to pregnancy and childbirth, and more than 21,000 children under five years old die with malnutrition the underlying cause in one-third of those child deaths. Sadly, most of these deaths are entirely preventable. Low-cost, high-stakes interventions foster hope and opportunity for millions, from training community health-workers to treat simple, but deadly, illnesses such as pneumonia and diarrhea, to supporting vaccinations and child nutrition programs. As some of the most cost-effective and results-driven programs, it is critical that the nutrition and maternal and child health accounts have the resources to directly impact some of the most vulnerable victims of poverty and instability.

Please take my name and address so I can hear back from [Rep./Sen.'s name] on whether he/she takes action to protect poverty-focused foreign aid. Thank you.

Get the Facts:

Poverty-focused foreign assistance is less than 1% of the federal budget, but it has a huge impact and delivers real results.

- Thanks to these cost-effective and efficient programs, **the total number of under-5 deaths worldwide has been reduced by more than one-third** – from 12.4 million per year to 7.2 million – in less than two decades.
- **Unfortunately, 7.2 million still die each year of treatable and preventable causes before their fifth birthday with malnutrition the underlying cause in one-third.**
- If cuts took place, **millions of people and children** would lose life-sustaining food assistance.
- As some of the **most cost-effective and results-driven programs**, it is critical that the nutrition and child health account have the resources to directly impact some of the most vulnerable victims of poverty and instability.

Call-In Tips:

- Introduce yourself to the receptionist and make sure that he or she take your name and address so that your message can be logged.
- Tell the receptionist that you recognize that Congress is making tough budget decisions right now and share why you, as a constituent, feel strongly that your member of Congress fight to protect the Nutrition and Maternal Children Health Accounts that save lives and give these kids hope for the future.
- Feel free to share why this issue is important to you and let the receptionist know if you are active in your community.
- Say thank you! Receptionists often have many duties, but saying thanks is a great way to let them know that the delivery of your message is important to you!
- Each call will take about 2-3 minutes, but will have an enormous impact for the lives of children and families around the world.

What Else Can I Do?

- Spread the word via Facebook or Twitter, using the common hashtag **#betheirvoice** and share our posts at www.facebook.com/savethechildren.
- Email your friends and family members and ask them to make a call.
- Send a letter to your members of Congress at www.savethechildren.org/advocacy-summit
- Write a letter to the editor in your local newspaper.
- Make an appointment with your member of Congress' local office and visit them to talk about these issues.
- For more information on how to become a Save the Children advocate, contact Chris at cmorrill@savechildren.org.