To the Honorable Ben Cardin Chairman Foreign Relations Committee United States Senate Washington, DC 20510 To the Honorable James Risch Ranking Member Foreign Relations Committee United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Cardin and Ranking Member Risch,

With your leadership and a clean, five-year reauthorization of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), we can end HIV/AIDS as a public health threat by the year 2030. Having made extraordinary progress, we urge you to press forward toward this compelling goal, which offers help and hope to the millions of God's children whose lives and futures are still at risk.

Since the creation of PEPFAR we have achieved results that were at one time unimaginable:1

- More than 25 million lives saved,
- Over 2.1 million people receiving antiretroviral treatment,
- 5.5 million babies born HIV-free,
- 64.7 million HIV/AIDS tests administered, and
- 7 million orphans and vulnerable children cared for.

U.S. leadership through PEPFAR, UNAIDS, and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria has achieved impressive results, and has proved that we can end HIV/AIDS as a public health threat by as soon as 2030. To date, 12 PEPFAR priority countries have achieved the goals of:²

- 95% of people living with HIV/AIDS know their status,
- 95% of people diagnosed with HIV receive treatment, and
- 95% receiving treatment achieve viral suppression.

Investing in HIV/AIDS also produces economic benefits worth \$6.44 for every \$1 spent on HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention.³ These investments promote economic growth, alleviate poverty, and promote human dignity.

At the end of 2023, \$19.8 billion (in constant 2019 United States dollars) was available for the AIDS response in low- and middle-income countries—around 59% was from domestic sources.⁴ Local partners are funding this effort, but as a world leader, the U.S. has a vital role to play in championing the end of HIV/AIDS through programs we know are working.

As a network of faith-based organizations who care deeply for the most vulnerable, whom we believe are made in God's image, we know the path forward to end HIV/AIDS as a public health threat by 2030. We hear from faith-based organizations and institutions across the globe that PEPFAR saves lives and they are grateful to the United States. A clean, five-year reauthorization of this life-saving program signals to the world that no matter the challenges - the U.S. is still leading and committed to saving lives and ending HIV/AIDS as a public health threat.

¹ PEPFAR Results and Impact (2023)

² PEPFAR Annual Report to Congress (2023) Page 5, Table 1

³ Science Direct, "The Economic Returns of Ending HIV/AIDS as a Public Health Threat" (LINK)

⁴ UNAIDS Global HIV & AIDS Statistics Fact Sheet - <u>Investments</u>

Sincerely,

Organizations Africa Christian Health Associations Platform (ACHAP) African Mission Healthcare (DeLand, FL) American Jewish World Service (New York, NY) Bureau des Formations Médicales Agréées du Rwanda (BUFMAR) Children's AIDS Fund International (Sterling, VA) Christian Connections for International Health (Alexandria, VA) Disabled Children's Fund (Crofton, MD) **ESADER Evangelical Immigration Table** Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (Chicago, IL) Faith Apostolic Mission International Church Faiths for Safe Water Food for the Hungry (Washington, DC) Friends of Kijabe Friends of Shirati General Board of Global Ministries, the United Methodist Church (Washington, DC) **Global Anabaptist Health Network** Healey International Relief Foundation (Cherry Hill, NJ) **ICMDA** Isaiah 58 Care Foundation Islamic Relief USA (Alexandria, VA) Kupenda for the Children (Hampton, NH) Maitaimako Outreach Foundation Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns (Washington, DC) Presbyterian Church (USA), Office of Public Witness (Washington, DC) Programme d'Actions pour le Développement au Congo asbl (RDC) Rwanda Interfaith Council on Health (RICH) United Church of Christ (Cleveland, OH) World Relief (Baltimore, MD) World Renew (Byron Center, MI) World Vision (Washington, DC) Union for Reform Judaism (Cincinnati, OH) Zimbabwe YMCA Individuals David R. Adams, Vice President for Missions, Emeritus Cross Catholic Outreach, (Boca Raton, FL) Rev. Dr. Tim Ahlman, Pastor Christ Greenfield Church, (Gilbert, AZ)

Andi Ashworth Author, (Nashville, TN)

Rev. Dr. David Beckmann, Dean's Advisor, Virginia Theological Seminary, (Alexandria, VA) Alex Campbell Founder, The Kingdom Initiative, (Cincinnati, OH)

Letitia M. Campbell, Ph.D."Director of Contextual Education and CPE; Assistant Professor in the Practice of Ethics and Society" Candler School of Theology, Emory University (Atlanta, GA) Curtis Chang, Ph.D. Executive Director, Redeeming Babel; Faculty, Duke Divinity School; Senior Fellow, Fuller Theological Seminary (San Jose, CA)

Erin Conaway, Pastor, Seventh & James Baptist Church, (Waco, TX)

Ian Morgan Cron, Author and Episcopal Priest, (Franklin, TN) David Dark, PhD Author, Professor of Religious Studies, Belmont University (Nashville, TN) J. Dale Dawson, Founder & CEO, Bridge2Rwanda, (Little Rock, AR) Brent Fields, Missions Pastor, Rich Pond Baptist Church, (Bowling Green, KY) Rev. Dr. Gary Furr, President, Alabama Coalition for Healthy Mothers and Children, (Birmingham, AL) Rev. Charley Garrison, Pastor Central Texas Metropolitan Community Church (Waco, TX) Jennifer Grant Author and Editor, (Chicago, IL) Dr. Joshua Graves, Lead Minister, Otter Creek Church (Nashville, TN) Andrew Greer, Singer/Songwriter, (Nashville, TN) Andy Gullahorn, Singer/Songwriter, (Nashville, TN) Rev. Dr. Terry Hamilton-Poore Pastor First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham, (Birmingham, AL) Michael C. Hart, Missions Pastor, First Baptist Church of Tulsa, (Tulsa, OK) Dan Haseltine, Composer, The Chosen; Founder, Blood:Water, (Nashville, TN) Jen Hatmaker Author and Speaker, (Buda, TX) Troy Jackson, Executive Director, UNDIVIDED, (Cincinnati, OH) Lisa Jernigan, Co Founder, Amplify Peace, (Mesa, AZ) Dr. Jim Keena, Professor of Pastoral Theology, Yellowstone Theological Institute, (Bozeman, MT) Velvet Kelm, President The Media Collective (Franklin, TN) Dr. Todd L. Lake, V.P. for Faith-Based Engagement & Church Relations, Belmont University (Nashville, TN) The Rev. Alex Large, Rector Holy Apostles Episcopal Church (Katy, TX) Anne Lucas, Director of Medical and Short Term Missions, E3 Partners, (Birmingham, AL) Rev. Dr. Jo Anne Lyon, General Superintendent Emerita, The Wesleyan Church, (Indianapolis, IN) Ray Martin, Executive Director Emeritus, Christian Connections for International Health (Springfield, VA) Suzanne Mayernick, Founder, Love One International (Brentwood, TN) Jodi McCall, Missions Pastor, Seacoast Church, (Charleston, SC) Joe S. McIlhaney, Jr., MD, Founder, The Institute for Sexual Health, (Plano, TX) Brian McLaren Author and Speaker, (Marco Island, FL) Jon Middendorf, Pastor OKC First, (Oklahoma City, OK) Russell Moore Editor in Chief, Christianity Today, (Nashville, TN) Steve Moore, Chairman, The Shalom Foundation, (Brentwood, TN) Heidi and Erik Murkoff, Author and Co-Founders, What to Expect Project (Los Angeles, CA) Michael A. O'Neal, CEO, OneWorld Health, (Charleston, SC) Paul Osteen, MD, Associate Pastor, Lakewood Church, (Houston, TX) Charlie Peacock, Music Producer and Artist-in-Residence, Lipscomb University, (Nashville, TN) Robert Rex Record, MD., CEO Christ Health, (Birmingham, AL) Ash Rogers, Executive Director, Lwala Community Alliance, (Nashville, TN) Rev. Gabriel Salguero, President, National Latino Evangelical Coalition, (Orlando, FL) Doug Serven, Pastor, Grace Church; Publisher, Storied.pub (Baltimore, MD) Cameron Shadinger, Singer/Songwriter, (Nashville, TN) Jake Smith, Executive Director, Blood:Water, (Nashville, TN) Durwood Snead, Former Global X: Director, North Point Ministries, (Atlanta, GA) Anne G. Stafford, MD, Retired, UAB Department of Pediatrics, (Birmingham, AL) Elizabeth Studley, Vice-Chair, Kenya Board, Kenya Relief, (Canton, MI) Rev. Adam Taylor, President, Sojourners, (Washington, DC) Debbie Taylor, Artist and Mother, (Nashville, TN)

Steve Taylor, Recording Artist & Filmmaker, Nashville, TN Pastor Rick and Kay Warren, Cofounders, Saddleback Church, (Lake Forest, CA) Jim West, Lead Pastor, Colonial Presbyterian Church (Kansas City, MO and Overland Park, KS) Rev. Chad Wible, Lead Pastor, Embrace Church, (Sunset Hills, MO) Kimberly Williams-Paisley, Actor, Author and Co-Founder of The Store (Franklin, TN) Morgan Wills, MD, MATS, FACP, Associate Dean for Clinical and Community Engagement; Associate Professor, Internal Medicine, Thomas Frist, Jr. College of Medicine, Belmont University (Nashville, TN)

CC: The Honorable Michael McCaul, Chair of the House Foreign Affairs Committee The Honorable Gregory Meeks, Ranking Member House Foreign Affairs Committee