



FH Statement on Administration's Budget Proposal for FY2022 International Poverty-Focused Assistance

WASHINGTON, D.C. – As countries around the world enter a second year of lockdowns and movement restrictions as a result of the pandemic and equitable access to vaccines in low-income contexts lags, it is clear that the fight against COVID-19 is far from over. In order for the U.S. to rise to these global challenges, FH calls on Congress and the President to put forth a bold U.S. budget that renews our compassionate diplomatic and humanitarian leadership, and urgently tackles the direct and indirect impacts of COVID-19 in our world's poorest communities.

In the recent [release](#) of the Biden Administration's fiscal year 2022 budget proposal, the President indicates additional support for international poverty-focused humanitarian and development programs by proposing a 12% increase over current funding levels. The International Affairs budget – which makes up less than 1% of total U.S. government spending – provides millions globally with critical development and humanitarian support. FH applauds this initial step towards addressing the vast and multi-layered humanitarian challenges facing vulnerable people worldwide, and asks for Congress' support in funding no less than the Administration's proposal of \$63.5 billion.

Funding for these programs will support life-saving immunizations for infants and young children; supply clean drinking water to water scarce communities; enable global education systems to reach every child, especially young girls; and promote holistic, transformative development to improve the resiliency of communities impacted by extreme poverty and human suffering.

Building on years of historic and bipartisan U.S. government leadership, FH is grateful for this renewed commitment on behalf of the Administration, and urges Republicans and Democrats in Congress to advance a budget that prioritizes U.S. poverty-focused relief and development assistance. As a nation blessed with prosperity, it is our moral responsibility to protect and better the lives of those in need.

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About Food for the Hungry:

Food for the Hungry (FH) is a Christian humanitarian organization ending all forms of human poverty by providing life-changing development programs, disaster relief, and advocacy. For 50 years, FH has been going into the world's hardest places with an exit strategy: to respond to human suffering and graduate communities of extreme poverty into self-sustainability, all within a decade. By creating context-specific solutions in education, agriculture, health, livelihood, clean water, and disaster risk reduction, the nonprofit focuses on transformational development, investing in children as the key to lift entire communities out of poverty. With 98% of staff working in their country of origin, FH works side by side with local leaders, churches, and families to implement innovative solutions. The organization currently serves more than 5.3 million people in over 20 countries worldwide. For more information, follow FH on [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#), or visit www.fh.org.