

Food for the Hungry Joins Call for President Biden to Pledge \$1 Billion

at N4G Summit to Fight Malnutrition

WASHINGTON, D.C. (November 30, 2021) – To combat the skyrocketing rates of global hunger, Food for the Hungry (FH) signed <u>a letter</u> with others in the anti-hunger and nutrition community requesting President Biden increase resources for fighting malnutrition to \$1 billion at the Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Summit in December 2021.

Global rates of malnutrition are rising as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, increased rates of conflict, and the effects of climate change. Without action, 283,000 additional children could die over the next two years due to increased levels of malnutrition caused by the pandemic, according to <u>a paper</u> <u>published in Nature</u>. That's a rate of over 250 children dying daily from preventable malnutrition. Additional millions of children will face stunting (low height for age) and wasting (low weight for height) because of pandemic effects on children's nutrition.

As the letter notes, children dying from preventable malnutrition is a moral tragedy, but it also has dire, long-lasting economic effects. Global productivity losses due to preventable malnutrition have been estimated to total \$44.3 billion, but the human toll is incalculable.

The global nutrition community is requesting the U.S. show its support in fighting malnutrition by pledging and investing \$1 billion for nutrition programs across Fiscal Years 2023, 2024, and 2025, which would contribute toward achieving <u>the 2025 World Health Assembly nutrition targets</u>. FH requests that this funding include an additional \$150 million annually for the Global Health-Nutrition subaccount and \$100 million across other accounts that support nutrition-sensitive programming or monitoring and evaluation of nutrition programs.

The letter also requests a commitment to utilize <u>the OECD nutrition policy marker</u> to better track funding that supports nutrition in order to increase transparency, and asks that detailed information regarding nutrition resources that feed into the U.S. Global Food Security Strategy be available on a publicly accessible website. Finally, the letter asks that the Administration invest in evidence-based interventions, including vitamin A supplementation, breastfeeding support, micronutrient supplementation, and wasting prevention and treatment. FH looks forward to the N4G Summit when it gets underway on December 7. We are eager to see robust commitments from the U.S. Government that will significantly reduce malnutrition rates, especially among children.

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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 working to respond to human suffering and graduate communities from extreme poverty into self-sustainability 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