



breadfortheworld
HAVE FAITH. END HUNGER.

11 December 2020

Dear Senator,

I write to you on the momentous occasion of the awarding of the Nobel Peace Prize to the United Nations World Food Programme for its efforts to combat hunger, its courageous work in helping build peace and stability in conflict-affected areas, and its endeavors to prevent the use of hunger as a weapon of war and conflict. We congratulate Executive Director David Beasley, the World Food Programme staff, and their partners for this important honor.

This award comes at a critical moment. After decades of progress, hunger around the world has been increasing for the last 6 years, due in large part to conflict, climate change, and global economic decline. The COVID-19 pandemic has only made matters worse. Without urgent action, the effects of the pandemic on hunger and malnutrition are expected to be catastrophic, with a potential doubling of the number of people around the world facing acute hunger to 270 million. Children are most at risk. It is expected that nearly 7 million more children will be acutely malnourished and face a higher risk of death and the long-term health and cognitive impacts.

The United States has a long, bipartisan history of fighting global hunger and malnutrition including helping establish the World Food Programme in 1961 at the behest of President Dwight Eisenhower. Now, in the greatest global crisis we have faced in our lifetimes, I urge you to take bold action. An investment of at least \$20 billion to fight COVID-19 abroad, including \$2 billion for hunger and food security programs and \$500 million for nutrition services, will help stem the tide of rising hunger, stave off famine emergencies, and set the stage for a lasting recovery. With the support of our Bread for the World network of 250,000 individuals, local churches, denominations, and other faith-based and anti-hunger organizations, I ask for your leadership on this global crisis and that you demonstrate the generosity so many of our faith traditions call for in times like these.

Sincerely,

Rev. Eugene Cho
President & CEO
Bread for the World



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