Nonprofit Community Letter to Nebraska Congressional Delegation

April 20, 2020

Dear Senators Fischer and Sasse, and Representatives Bacon, Fortenberry, and Smith:

Like most other parts of our economy, Nebraska’s nonprofit sector – which provides about 10% of private sector jobs in our state – continues to struggle in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic. The CARES Act includes significant relief for charitable organizations by including nonprofits in the emergency loan programs, extending unemployment benefits to many nonprofit employees, and providing a small tax incentive for charitable giving. Nonprofits are appreciative of this relief and 203 nonprofit organizations join us in making this request.

Last week, a unified group of major national organizations has put together a set of recommendations (attached) for modifications to the CARES Act that will help preserve nonprofits’ ability to provide essential services at this time of greatest need. We fully support these recommendations, and we seek your assistance in ensuring that they are included in the fourth COVID-19 stimulus bill that Congress passes. Specifically, nonprofits need the following four modifications to the CARES Act:

1. **Expand access to credit.** Expanding nonprofits’ access to credit to provide for immediate financial relief by expanding nonprofit eligibility for the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and by establishing a dedicated funding stream for PPP loans to nonprofit organizations.
2. **Bolster charitable giving incentives.** Strengthening temporary above-the-line charitable deduction from the CARES Act by allowing taxpayers to use it on the 2019 taxes, significantly increasing the $300 cap, and extending it beyond 2020.
3. **Protect self-insured nonprofits.** Holding harmless self-insured nonprofits by providing funding to cover 100% of the costs of these organizations’ unemployment claims. Without this change, many nonprofits that provide health care, food assistance, affordable housing, childcare, and other critical services will have to end or curtail services later this year.
4. **Support nonprofits providing essential services during the crisis.** Increase emergency funding so that nonprofits can work with state and local governments to provide essential services to vulnerable families and frontline responders to the COVID-19 crisis.

Thank you for your continued leadership during this crisis. The CARES Act was an important first step in helping nonprofits recover from the COVID-19 crisis. We hope you and your colleagues in Congress can make these important modifications to help nonprofits continue to provide essential services in our communities.

Please feel free to reach out to Hannah Young at Nonprofits Association of the Midlands (hannah@nonprofitam.org) for additional information on any of these requests.

Sincerely,
100 BLACK MEN OF OMAHA INC
3Sisters
Alliance for the Future of Agriculture in Nebraska
ALS in the Heartland
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN)
American Heart Association
American Lung Association in Nebraska
Angels on Wheels dba Cross Training Center
Asian Community & Cultural Center
Autism Center of Nebraska, Inc.
Banisters Leadership Academy
BBBS of the Midlands
Bennington Public Schools Foundation
Benson Area Refugee TaskForce
Benson Plant Rescue / Community Produce Rescue
BFF OMAHA
Big Brothers Big Sisters Lincoln
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Nebraska
Bike Walk Nebraska
Black Votes Matter
Blue River Pet Rescue
Blue Valley Community Action
Boys & Girls Clubs of the Midlands
Boys Town
Brain Injury Alliance of Nebraska
Bridges to Hope
Bright Horizons Resources for Survivors of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, Inc.
Business Ethics Alliance
Camp High Hopes
Camp Summergold
Carnegie Arts Center INC
CASA For Douglas County
CASA for Lancaster County
Goodwill Industries, Inc., Serving Eastern Nebraska and Southwest Iowa
Grand Island Chamber of Commerce
Great Plains Black History Museum
Greater Grand Island Community Foundation
Greater Omaha Attendance & Learning Services
Grief's Journey
GROW Nebraska Foundation
Habitat for Humanity of Lincoln
Habitat for Humanity of Omaha
Head Start CFDP Inc
HEART HEROES INC
Heartland Bike Share
Heartland Counseling Services, Inc.
Heartland Equine Therapeutic Riding Academy
Heartland Family Service
Heartland United Way
Heartland Workers Center
Hogan's Junior Golf Heroes DBA The First Tee of Omaha
Houses of Hope of Nebraska, Inc.
Houston Alexander Foundation
Immigrant Legal Center
Inclusive Communities
Inquisitive Arts Initiative
International American Relief Society IARS
Jewish Federation of Omaha
KANEKO
Kearney Area Children's Museum
Kearney Area Community Foundation
Kearney Works
Keep Fremont Beautiful
Kids Can Community Center
KI OS Omaha Public Radio
Omaha Academy of Ballet
Omaha Conservatory of Music
Omaha Equestrian Foundation
Omaha Girls Rock
Omaha Sports Commission
Omaha Zoo Foundation
Open Door Mission
Our Light Inc
OutNebraska
Partnership 4 Kids
Passion First Wrestling, Inc.
Planned Parenthood North Central States – Nebraska
Prairie STEM
PROJECT HOPE INC
Provider’s Network, Inc.
Rabble Mill
ReConnect, Inc.
Release Inc
Released and Restored
Resonance, Inc.
RESPECT
RISE
Santa Monica, Inc.
SAVE Program Inc.
Saving Grace Perishable Food Rescue
Senior Services Inc
Siena Francis House
Smart Girl Society
Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Southside Redevelopment Corporation
SPARKPositivity
Stand For Schools
Star Legacy Foundation - Nebraska Chapter
Stay in School Stop the Violence
Susan G. Komen Great Plains
Sweet Future Project Inc
The Big Garden
The Bridge Behavioral Health
The Chadron State Foundation
Catholic Charities of Omaha
Cedars Youth Services
Centro Hispano
Centro Latino of Iowa
Children’s Scholarship Fund of Omaha
City Sprouts
Civic Nebraska
Clarkson College
Columbus Area United Way
Common Fund of the Heartland
Community Action of Nebraska
Community Players
Community Services Fund of Nebraska
Compass
Completely KIDS
Cooper Foundation
CRCC (Children’s Respite Care Center)
CUES Fund
Daily House, Inc.
Down Syndrome Alliance of the Midlands
Energize Nonprofit Consulting
Film Streams
Financial Hope Collaborative at Creighton
Florence Home for the Aged
Food Bank of Lincoln
Fremont Area Community Foundation
Fremont Area Habitat for Humanity
Friends of the Midwest Theater
Friendship Home of Lincoln
Generation Diamond
Gesu Housing, Inc.
Girls Inc. of Omaha
Go Beyond Nebraska
Goodwill Industries of Greater Nebraska, Inc.
Goodwill Industries, Inc.
KVC Behavioral Healthcare Nebraska, Inc.
Leadership Lincoln, Inc.
Leadership Tomorrow
Lift Up Sarpy County
Lincoln Calling
Lincoln Children’s Museum
Lincoln Community Playhouse
Lincoln Indian Center
Lutheran Service Corps
LUX Center for the Arts
Matt Talbot Kitchen & Outreach
Memories for Kids
MENTOR Nebraska
Metro Area Youth Foundation
MICAH House
Montessori Co-op School
Mourning Hope Grief Center
Mt. Moriah Baptist Church
National Able
Nebraska AIDS Project
Nebraska Appleseed
Nebraska CASA Association
Nebraska Children’s Home Society
Nebraska Civic Engagement Table
Nebraska Coalition for Lifesaving Cures
Nebraska Communities Playhouse
Nebraska Cultural Endowment
Nebraska Humane Society
Nebraska State Bar Association
Nebraska Writers Collective
Nebraskans for the Arts
NeighborWorks Lincoln
Nelson Mendela Elem.
No More Empty Pots
Norfolk Arts Center
North Omaha Area Health (NOAH)
The Crisis Center For Domestic Abuse/Sexual Assault Dba The Bridge
The DOVES Program
The Kannico Agency
THE OMAHA HOME FOR BOYS
The Rose Theater
The Salvation Army Western Division
The Simple Foundation
The Union for Contemporary Art
The Valley Child Development Center
Together
Tri-City Food Pantry
Tri-Faith Initiative
Uniquely Yours Stability Support
United Way of the Midlands
Uplifting Paws
Vesper Concerts
Vision Maker Media
Voice Advocacy Center
WhyArts Inc
Women’s Empowering Life Line
Women’s Fund of Omaha
Woods Charitable Fund
YFC, Inc. d/b/a Maha
YMCA of Hastings, Nebraska
Young Entrepreneurs of The Future
Youth Emergency Services
YouTurn
YWCA of Grand Island