

February/March 2024, Action Sheet, Global Poverty

## Write to Congress: Prioritize Global Poverty in FY25 Appropriations

As the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress looks at its spending plan for fiscal year 2025 (FY25), it's time to tell them what their priorities should be. As a leader in global health and development, the United States must prioritize maternal and child health and nutrition, basic education, and global tuberculosis programs. Each of these areas drive and exacerbate poverty around the world. That's where your work on the appropriations process enters the picture. Did you know that you, as a constituent, can influence this process? You absolutely can – and should!



“Appropriation” is the act of setting aside money for a specific purpose. Every year Congress directs federal funding by “appropriating” resources for the fiscal year to various programs, including international development programs supported by RESULTS. The graphic below shows how the process works. The following tips will help you influence spending decisions to continue the progress we are making.

**The key to being heard in this political climate is early, clear, and frequent outreach to Congress.** We must remind all members of Congress that constituents care about fighting poverty. We must encourage every member of the House and Senate to engage in the spending process. Now is the time to tell Congress they should prioritize protecting and increasing funding for anti-poverty programs in global health for FY25 (which officially starts on Oct. 1, 2024).

**Take Action:** Ask your members of Congress to include our funding requests on global maternal and child health, Gavi (vaccines), nutrition, global education, the Global Fund, and bilateral tuberculosis in their requests to the State and Foreign Operations (SFOPS) Appropriations Subcommittee. For background on each of these issues, please review the [Community of Change](#) resources which contain additional information and talking points.

Unless your member of Congress [has supported all of the issues in the past](#), select one or two issues you think your member is most likely to support.

### Summary of RESULTS' FY25 Appropriations Requests

<b>Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria</b>	At least \$1.65 billion
<b>Bilateral Tuberculosis</b>	At least \$1 billion
<b>Global Nutrition</b>	At least \$300 million
<b>Global Maternal and Child Health</b>	At least \$1.15 billion
<b>Of which, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance</b>	At least \$340 million
<b>Global Basic Education</b>	At least \$1.15 billion
<b>Of which, Global Partnership for Education</b>	At least \$200 million

## Sample Letter to Member of Congress and/or Foreign Policy Aide in EPIC Format

Consider organizing a group outreach activity by inviting RESULTS group members, Action Network members, and others who care about these issues to write to your congressional legislators. You can find a [sample meeting agenda here](#).

**Subject: Please take action on FY25 global poverty appropriations**

**Engage:** The U.S. has historically been a partner in the fight against poverty by investing in effective and accountable global development programs that improve access to good education, good health, and brighter futures.

**State Problem:** We know that global health and education programs were devastated beyond the immediate effects of COVID-19, and that the effects of conflict and other crises continue to reverberate. Deaths due to and cases of tuberculosis, preventable child deaths from malnutrition, and school closures creating learning loss all contribute to the theft of people's futures.

**Inform:** The State and Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee (SFOPS) will soon be considering spending levels for global health and education for fiscal year 2025.

**Call to Action:** Will you please write and speak to the leadership of SFOPS, Reps. Mario Diaz-Balart and Barbara Lee / Sens. Chris Coons and Lindsey Graham, and ask that they include the following funding levels in their FY25 spending bill?

- Select your requests from the chart above

This funding is both smart and compassionate. These investments support some of the highest impact anti-poverty efforts and improve U.S. impact and equity in the world. Will you weigh in with the subcommittee on these vital requests?

Thank you, *name, address, phone number.*