

Support Robust Funding for PEPFAR and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria in FY25

****Deadline COB May 10, 2024****

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FY 24 signers: Booker, Sullivan, Durbin, Menendez, Duckworth, Kaine, Shaheen, Carper, Smith, King, Casey, Ossoff, Brown, Cardin, Peters, Hirono, Cantwell, Padilla, Lujan, Warren, Kelly, Rosen, Murphy, Stabenow, Baldwin, Gillibrand, Warnock, Sinema, Van Hollen, Sanders, Merkley, Wyden, Klobuchar, Markey, Feinstein, Blumenthal, Warner, Welch

Dear Colleagues,

Senator Booker invites your bosses to sign a letter to the SFOPS subcommittee in support of robust funding in FY25 for PEPFAR and the Global Fund's work in HIV prevention and treatment programs. PEPFAR and the Global Fund have been transformative in fighting the HIV/AIDS epidemic and expanding treatment programs across the world.

As of 2023, PEPFAR supported lifesaving antiretroviral treatment for nearly 20.5 million people. Since its inception, PEPFAR is responsible for saving 25 million lives and preventing more than 5.5 million new infections in children.

The Global Fund's efforts have saved over 59 million lives since its inception in 2002. In 2022, the Global Fund supported 24.5 million people on antiretroviral treatment for HIV, treated 6.7 million people for Tuberculosis (TB), and distributed 219.7 million insecticide-treated bed nets for malaria prevention.

Please [sign on via Quill](#) and contact samantha_schifrin@booker.senate.gov and/or samir_hammoud@booker.senate.gov with any questions.

The Honorable Chris Coons
Chairman
Subcommittee on State, Foreign
Operations, and Related Programs
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Lindsey Graham
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on State, Foreign
Operations, and Related Programs
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Coons and Ranking Member Graham:

We are writing to request that you continue critical investments in global health programs in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations bill, in particular the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund). We are grateful for your leadership in ensuring these programs continue to be

robustly funded, and look to you again as PEPFAR and the Global Fund work towards the rapid acceleration of HIV prevention and treatment programs with the goal of ending the AIDS epidemic while rebuilding projects from the impacts of COVID-19.

U.S. leadership through PEPFAR and other bilateral investments, along with multilateral investments in the Global Fund over time, have been transformative in fighting the deadly HIV/AIDS epidemic, and the results are astounding. As of September 30, 2023, PEPFAR supported lifesaving antiretroviral treatment for nearly 20.5 million people. Through PEPFAR support, 7.0 million orphans, vulnerable children and their caregivers accessed critical care and support services and since its inception, more than 5.5 million new infections were averted in children. The bold vision of the PEPFAR program paired with enduring, consistent bipartisan Congressional support is responsible for saving 25 million lives.

At the same time, the Global Fund's efforts have saved over 59 million lives since its inception in 2002. In 2022, the Global Fund supported 24.5 million people on antiretroviral treatment for HIV, treated 6.7 million people for Tuberculosis (TB), and distributed 219.7 million insecticide-treated bed nets for malaria prevention. Global Fund investments in programs that support adolescent girls and young women in 13 priority countries have led to a 67% decrease in the HIV incidence rate amongst that population since 2010.

Tuberculosis is the leading cause of death for people living with HIV – 1 in 3 HIV-positive people die from TB. Progress on the TB epidemic hinges on finding the over three million people “missed” by health systems each year. By focusing on 20 countries that account for a majority of missing people with TB globally, Global Fund investments contributed to over one million additional TB case notifications by the end of 2019. As the host of the Global Fund's Seventh Replenishment in 2022, the U.S.'s bold leadership spurred the largest amount ever raised for the partnership and incentivized several nations to increase their pledges.

Despite the tremendous progress made on HIV globally, every week, around 4,000 young women aged 15-24 are infected with HIV worldwide. PEPFAR and the Global Fund are prioritizing programs that support adolescent girls and young women to access critical and innovative prevention and treatment programming.

PEPFAR and the Global Fund are leading global efforts to not only improve HIV care, but also enable countries to improve the overall health of their citizens by creating a lasting infrastructure that positions partner countries to respond to a range of health challenges and threats like Ebola and COVID-19. The investments not only improve the lasting health of partner countries, but also serve as a first response to emerging threats to global health and the global economy. Providing robust support for PEPFAR and the Global Fund bolsters the United States' relationship in the world and increases our ability to strengthen health systems that protect against virulent disease outbreaks, while making progress in combatting HIV, tuberculosis, and malaria.

As we work to maintain our commitments to PEPFAR and the Global Fund, investment in the research and development of an HIV/AIDS vaccine must continue. Vaccines are highly powerful and cost-effective

tools for controlling the spread of a virus. Continued investments by the U.S. Government could lead the way to stopping HIV/AIDS in its tracks.

These successes are only possible because of longstanding bi-partisan support for the programs. Congress's enduring investments in the PEPFAR program and the U.S. participation in the Global Fund reinforce a renewed commitment to ending AIDS as a global health threat. Thank you for considering our request for robust funding and for your ongoing leadership in fighting HIV/AIDS.

Sincerely,