

Fund programs that keep communities out of poverty in FY26

In the fiscal year 2026 (FY26) budget, Congress must enact robust funding for global health, global education, and housing choice vouchers. They should uphold their power of the purse by including guardrails to ensure appropriated money is spent as directed.

Congress has until January 30 to pass several remaining FY26 appropriations bills. The Transportation, Housing and Urban Development (THUD) bill will include funding for housing choice vouchers (HCVs) that support low-income households. The State and Foreign Operations (SFOPS) bill will set the budget for foreign aid.

Congress must act to make housing more affordable

Congress has an essential opportunity to protect and expand funding for programs that promote access to housing. Failing to do so will only deepen hardship and drive Americans further into poverty. Forty-five million households in the U.S. struggle to pay their rent. Nearly half of all renters pay 30 to 50 percent of their incomes to stay housed. These costs put food, health care, and other basic needs out of reach or push people into homelessness. 40 to 60 percent of those experiencing homelessness have jobs but simply cannot afford to rent a place to live.

With current resources, only one in four families that are eligible for rental assistance actually receive it. HCVs help over 5 million individuals and families by including incentives for landlords, security deposit support, rent money, and more.

Congress must continue bipartisan investments in global health and development

The Trump Administration's dismantling of foreign aid has had swift consequences. An estimated 600,000 people have died as a result of closing USAID. Bold investments in health and poverty programs can prevent future deaths and protect Americans from the spread of infectious diseases. In the SFOPS bill, Congress can protect and continue longstanding bipartisan investments in children, health, and communities.

Since 2002, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria has helped [save 70 million lives](#). The Global Fund provided Tuberculosis treatment for 7.4 million people last

year alone, but 1.3 million people still died from the disease every year. At their last replenishment, the U.S. pledged to uphold its 1:2 matching commitment, with \$4.6 billion over three years. This strong pledge starts with at least \$1.5 billion in FY26.

Maternal and child health and nutrition must also be prioritized in foreign aid. In 2023, U.S. funding provided quality nutrition to almost 30 million children under age 5, and resuscitated 238,000 newborns that weren't breathing at birth. Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, has vaccinated [over 1.2 billion children](#) and averted over 20.6 million deaths since 2000.

U.S. funded basic education programs have reached over 44 million students a year, providing essential baselines for economic development. Children in low-income communities and areas affected by conflict and crisis are still being left behind by educational systems, affecting their future wages.

The FY26 budget must include the highest possible funding levels and safeguards to make it enforceable

As we near the January 30 deadline, please urge House and Senate appropriators to enact a bipartisan budget. **That budget must fund housing, global health, and education programs at the highest levels possible. It must also include guardrails to ensure the Administration spends the money as directed by Congress.**

Account	FY25 Enacted	FY26 PBR	FY26 House	FY26 bicameral bill
Section 8 HCV renewals	\$32.15 billion	N/A	\$32.15 billion	\$34.96 billion
Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria	\$1.65 billion	\$800 million	\$1.5 billion	\$1.25 billion
Global Tuberculosis	\$394.5 million	\$178.9 million	\$394.5 million	\$378.7 million
Global Maternal and Child Health	\$915 million	\$85 million	\$915 million	\$915 million
Of which, Gavi	\$300 million	\$0	\$300 million	\$300 million
Global Nutrition	\$165 million	\$0	\$172.5 million	\$165 million
Global Basic Education	\$922 million	\$0	\$737.6 million	\$691.5 million
Of which, GPE	\$121.6 million	\$0	\$121.6 million	maintained