



OFFERING — of — LETTERS *to Congress*

Alicia Cisneros, a mother in New Mexico, works two low-income jobs, without complaint, because she wants her children to flourish. During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, a check arrived each month as part of the expanded Child Tax Credit. The money ensured there was nutritious food on the dinner table. A continent away in Uganda, Esther Okwir looks at her son Rodgers with joy. She is thankful for the nutrition assistance that is helping him thrive. He is beating the odds in a country where the death rate for children under age 5 is among the worst in the world.

These women share a common struggle and hope to see their children healthy and happy. They also share in the benefits of Christian advocacy that strengthened anti-hunger programs.

Each year, people of faith write letters and emails to their members of Congress who have the power to impact the policies and programs that can end hunger. Your letters are more important than ever. Growing inflation and the expiration of vital anti-hunger benefits means more children are expected to experience food insecurity this year. Globally, hunger is on the rise, with famine looming in multiple countries.

By taking part in Bread for the World's 2022 Offering of Letters, you will help make nutrition for mothers and children a priority in our own country and abroad. Together, and through God's loving mercy, we have the power to help. When we turn our faith into action, God uses our voices.

"Faith-based advocacy is part of our Christian heritage. It goes back to Moses advocating to Pharaoh and on up to recent times with leaders like Martin Luther King Jr."

—Pastor Eric Hanson, Faith Lutheran Church in Andover, Iowa



Photos by Anne Thurow



breadfortheworld
HAVE FAITH. END HUNGER.

Bread for the World is a collective Christian voice urging our nation's decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad. For nearly 50 years, Bread for the World members have helped win support for bipartisan measures that address the causes of hunger. Each year, thousands of churches from many faith traditions take part in the Offering of Letters.

Join Bread for the World's collective voice for an end to hunger. Please take a few minutes to write your members of Congress. Urge them to make nutrition a priority and to increase funding for nutrition programs that enable mothers and children to grow and thrive. Additional samples letters can be found in print and email format at bread.org/ol.

SAMPLE LETTER

Sen. _____
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Rep. _____
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

[Date]

Dear Senator _____, or Dear Representative _____,

More than 12 million children in the U.S. are not getting enough to eat. You can reduce child hunger by making permanent the refundable tax credit expansion and by reauthorizing child nutrition programs.

Access to adequate and safe nutrition is vital to growth and learning, especially in the first 1,000 days of a child's life.

Specifically, I urge you to:

- Expand free school meals to additional children through the Community Eligibility Provision Program and extend Summer EBT nationwide.
- Make the one-year expansion of the Child Tax Credit (CTC) permanent, fully refundable, and available to families regardless of their children's immigration status. Otherwise, an estimated 9.9 million children are at risk of poverty.

Children are the heritage of the Lord (Psalm 127:3), and as Christian, I believe we all carry responsibility for their well-being and future. I urge you to strengthen the nutrition programs that give our nation's children the opportunity to flourish.

[your name]
[your address]
[city, state, ZIP]

Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____ to support the work of Bread for the World.

Name (please print) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Please mail to the address at right.



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