



Jewish Federation
OF GREATER CHARLOTTE

Jewish
Community
Relations
Council

The JCRC promotes the interests of the Charlotte Jewish community by creating working relationships with our neighbors and serving as the collective voice of the Jewish community.

Dear Community Members,

Thank you for reaching out to our legislators! Congress recently passed legislation that provided almost \$500 billion in COVID-19 relief, with \$310 billion devoted to the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) as well as additional resources for Economic Injury Disaster Loans, national coronavirus testing, and the Public Health & Social Service Emergency Fund, which provides needed dollars to frontline Jewish communal health agencies.

While this additional aid is greatly appreciated, more support is needed to ensure that our agencies can adequately care for the most vulnerable. Please contact to your **Representatives** who will be crafting the next bill.

In your outreach, please THANK **[YOUR MEMBER OF CONGRESS](#)** for their overwhelming support for the “Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act” (the bill that passed last week); ask for their continued leadership in combating COVID-19; and urge your Representatives to do three things:

SUPPORT additional funding for the SBA Paycheck Protection Loans Program, while setting aside a significant amount for nonprofits and allowing larger nonprofits to participate. The new aid that was just approved, will be exhausted shortly.

COSPONSOR the Save the Organizations that Serve America Act (H.R. 6408 or the SOS bill) and **SIGN ON** to the Moulton (D-MA) / Fitzpatrick (R-PA) **[Dear Colleague letter](#)** that promotes the interests of the nonprofit sector.

INCREASE the Medicaid Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) by a total of 12% and ensure that our health partners have the critical resources to support higher COVID-19 health staffing costs. Medicaid is the largest funder of most Jewish health and human service agencies. Congress had previously increased FMAP by 6.2% as part of the Family First Coronavirus Response Act back in March. Increasing the FMAP rate by an additional 5.8% will allow states, localities and agencies to support millions of additional COVID-19 victims.

****Note: To increase support for this additional FMAP bump, please also reach out to your governor, state legislators, and other state public officials and encourage them to weigh in with Congress on this.**

[Click here to contact your State Legislator.](#)

Sample call scripts, emails, and social media posts appear below. Please forward this letter to others who can help.

Thank you for your advocacy efforts. Please contact me with any questions or comments you may have.

Sincerely,

[Laurel Grauer](#) , Director of Community Relations and Israel Affairs

Sample Email:

Dear Representative:

I am involved in our local Jewish community and want to thank you for demonstrating leadership during this time of great need and, in particular, for your support of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and the Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act. As you know, nonprofits across America, such as Jewish Federations and Jewish human service agencies, provide food, medicine, and other basic needs to hundreds of thousands of people every day, regardless of faith, background or ability to pay. Unfortunately, despite the breadth of the legislation that you have already passed, more support remains needed in our communities. When you return to Washington, please pass a coronavirus response bill that:

- 1) **Replenish** the SBA Paycheck Protection Loan Program, while setting aside significant funding specifically for the nonprofit sector and permitting larger nonprofits (those with more than 500 employees) to participate in the game-changing Small Business Administration program.
- 2) **Increase** the Medicaid Federal Medical Assistance Percentage rate by a total of 12% (5.8% more than what was already included in the Families First Coronavirus Response Act) and ensuring that our health partner agencies like Jewish nursing homes, group homes for people with disabilities, and home health agencies have the resources to respond to the now much higher COVID-19 health staffing costs and are able to offer hazard pay for those who risk their lives to support the most vulnerable.
- 3) **Cosponsor** the Save the Organizations that Serve America Act (H.R. 6408) and [sign-on to the Moulton/Fitzpatrick Dear Colleague letter](#) supporting nonprofits. In addition to providing support for Paycheck Protection Program and enhancing nonprofit access to other loan funds, the bill would fully fund unemployment insurance costs for nonprofits that self-insure and enhance the charitable tax incentives included in the CARES Act. Please encourage House leadership to include these SOS provisions in the next COVID-19 relief bill. Collectively these measures will allow us to support the basic needs of the most vulnerable members of our communities, who are desperately trying to survive this public health and economic crisis. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sample Social Media Post:

During this challenging time it is particularly important to care for the most vulnerable in our ailing communities. WE URGE Congress to provide additional funding for the SBA Payroll Protection Program and Medicaid and pass the **Save the Organizations that Serve America Act**.