MEMORANDUM

TO: National and International Union Presidents
Principal Officers of State Federations and
Central and Area Labor Councils

FROM: Richard L. Trumka

DATE: April 16, 2019

RE: 2019 National AFL-CIO United Way Campaign Endorsement

I am writing to encourage you to support the 2019 United Way campaign. The United Way has been a key national partner for over 75 years. Throughout those years, local United Ways and labor movements across the country have enjoyed a beneficial partnership that has led to collaborative programs that improve the lives of working families and assist workers in their time of need, for example, during the government shut-down earlier this year.

Much of this work has been made possible through the successful efforts of AFL-CIO Labor Liaisons and Labor Agency staff to bridge the United Way and labor communities and develop strategic partnerships with community allies.

The labor movement cannot tackle the problems of working people alone. To advance the common good in our communities, it is critical for us to work in partnership with effective local organizations who share our values. The United Way and the AFL-CIO share a common vision of prosperous, inclusive, diverse and safe communities, where every member of the community has access to a quality public education, fair wages, productive work opportunities and accessible, affordable, quality health care.
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Over the many years of our partnership, unions and their members have contributed hundreds of millions of dollars to support local United Ways’ impactful work in their communities. I enthusiastically endorse and support this year's United Way campaign and encourage you to do the same. Please feel free to use this letter as a sample for your own 2019 United Way endorsement, or create your own letter. Please send your United Way endorsement on union letterhead to Erkeisha Terry, United Way Worldwide, 701 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314-2045 or email erkeisha.terry@uww.unitedway.org. Please also email a copy of the letter to Yael Foa, Community Engagement United Way Program Coordinator, at yfoa@aflcio.org.

Thank you in advance for your support of this important endeavor.

RLT/YF/lah
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