



AFL-CIO

AMERICA'S UNIONS

**American Federation
of Labor and
Congress of Industrial
Organizations**

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MEMORANDUM

TO: National and International Union Presidents
Principal Officers of State Federations and
Central and Area Labor Councils
AFL-CIO Community Partnerships

FROM: Elizabeth H. Shuler, President 

DATE: September 16, 2021

RE: 2021 United Way Giving Campaign

The United Way has been a key national partner of labor for nearly 80 years. The past two years, working people have faced unprecedented challenges as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Millions have lost jobs and fallen sick. Thousands of us have died, and millions of working people who thought we were economically secure, have suddenly feared we could not feed our families. In times of profound challenge, the labor movement always steps up. We stand by each other, and the communities we live in and serve. Now it is time for those of us who are fortunate enough to be working to give back to our communities and to the working people who are in need today. That is why I am writing to ask you to support the 2021 United Way Giving Campaign.

Through our network of Labor Liaisons, the AFL-CIO and United Way have worked for decades to meet our communities' needs. During the pandemic, this network has given life to our commitment to help each other by coordinating food distributions, teaching apprenticeship programs, partnering with government agencies to assist workers with unemployment benefits, and more.

If we are going to have a better day in America we must work in partnership with effective local organizations who share our values. The United Way is a critical partner helping us do that. The AFL-CIO and the United Way share a common vision of prosperous, inclusive and diverse communities, where everyone has access to a quality public education, fair wages, good jobs and affordable & quality healthcare.

So I ask you again, please support United Way in its 2021 giving campaign and help broaden our solidarity during this critical time.



Memorandum to National and International Union Presidents, Principal Officers of State Federations and Central and Area Labor Councils, AFL-CIO Community Partnerships

September 16, 2021

Page two

Please feel free to use this letter as a sample for your own 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 Kristie Small, AFL-CIO Director of the United Way Worldwide Partnership, at ksmall@aficio.org.

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

EHS/TA/as
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cc: Ramon Becerra, Director, Political/Electoral and Issue Mobilization
Prairie Wells, Deputy Director, Political/Electoral and Issue Mobilization
Maggie Koebbe, National Field Director, Mobilization Hub
David Driscoll-Knight, Regional Director, East Region
Stephen Cousins, Regional Director, Central Region
Fernando Losada, Regional Director, West Region