



March 22, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
U.S. Senate  
317 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1236 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
U.S. Senate  
322 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2468 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Majority Leader McConnell, Minority Leader Schumer, Speaker Pelosi, and Minority Leader McCarthy:

CancerCare is the leading national organization dedicated to providing free, professional support services including counseling, support groups, educational workshops, publications and financial assistance to anyone affected by cancer. In FY19, our programs and services helped almost 275,000 people, with every state represented among our clients.

Despite the covid-19 pandemic, our dedicated social workers and staff are continuing to provide vital support services to cancer patients across the country. Our staff is home, yet fielding the thousands of calls from cancer patients who are now facing the added complications of the covid-19 virus, which in many cases is delaying their treatment and putting them at higher risk for infection.

Our work is threatened, however, by the same financial impacts affecting businesses and individuals across the nation. We greatly appreciate the work that Congress is doing to shore up the nation's financial system and mitigate the damage that covid-19 is causing to the economy, businesses, and individuals. We urge you to ensure that any legislation also assists charitable non-profit organizations by making the following changes to the Senate Republican-released package during final negotiations:

1. Expressly include charitable nonprofits in the \$200 billion loan fund for businesses, including airlines. The charitable sector needs an immediate infusion of \$60 billion and the loan program is a fast way to get cash in the hands of organizations serving immediate needs in communities while also facing losses in revenue due to the pandemic.
2. Improve the above-the-line charitable tax deduction by raising the cap to \$2,000 and allowing all taxpayers to immediately claim the deduction on their 2019 returns (due on July 15) and afterwards through 2021.
3. Clarify that charitable nonprofits of all sizes can participate in the emergency Small Business Loan Program by using the tax-law definition of charitable organizations (501(c)(3) public charities) and removing the language that excludes nonprofits eligible to receive Medicaid reimbursements.





## Help and Hope

These steps, if taken, will greatly support our ability to continue to perform the important work we do for the cancer patients in your communities.

Thank you for your consideration of this critical issue.

Sincerely,

Patricia J. Goldsmith  
Chief Executive Officer