

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

April 28, 2020

The Honorable Kelly Craft  
Ambassador of the United States of America  
799 United Nations Plaza  
New York, NY 10017

Dear Ambassador Craft:

As COVID-19 pandemic numbers continue to rise, we write to seek your assistance in the effort to restart U.S. humanitarian assistance to Palestinians, including UNRWA. As you know, the pandemic has now reached the Gaza Strip with cases beginning to inexorably rise in a place with few resources to combat the outbreak. Coupled with the growing number of COVID-19 cases in the West Bank, Lebanon, Syria, and Jordan, the pandemic now poses an unprecedented global health emergency.

It is important that we empower these public health officials, who are deliberately putting themselves in harm's way for the common good, by providing them the resources they need to address the COVID-19 pandemic. The U.S. government has funding available through its Migration and Refugee Assistance and Economic Support Fund programs for immediate obligation to address this deteriorating humanitarian situation. The administration need only obligate these funds - their use requires neither additional legislative language nor supplemental appropriations.

These funds could be put to instant use supporting the public health response, including the 3,300 health care workers staffing 144 UNRWA health clinics that are now on the front lines in combating this pandemic. UNRWA is working closely with host authorities and the World Health Organization with triage care and protocols in place to identify patients with respiratory symptoms. This funding could also support the six facilities comprising the East Jerusalem Hospital Network, as well as U.S. NGOs engaged in health work.

Thank you for your consideration. We hope you can assist in making these potentially life-saving funds available for immediate obligation.

Sincerely,

Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress

Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress

**Raul M. Grijalva**  
Member of Congress

**Bonnie Watson Coleman**  
Member of Congress

**Bobby L. Rush**  
Member of Congress

**Peter Welch**  
Member of Congress

**Betty McCollum**  
Member of Congress

**Ilhan Omar**  
Member of Congress

**James P. McGovern**  
Member of Congress

**Ruben Gallego**  
Member of Congress

**Mike Doyle**  
Member of Congress

**Henry C. “Hank” Johnson, Jr.**  
Member of Congress

**Mark Takano**  
Member of Congress

**Jamie Raskin**  
Member of Congress

**Seth Moulton**  
Member of Congress

**André Carson**  
Member of Congress

**Pramila Jayapal**  
Member of Congress

**Alan Lowenthal**  
Member of Congress

**Diana DeGette**  
Member of Congress

**Rosa DeLauro**  
Member of Congress

**Jahana Hayes**  
Member of Congress

**Sean Casten**  
Member of Congress

Dwight Evans  
Member of Congress

Peter A. DeFazio  
Member of Congress

Mark Pocan  
Member of Congress

Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress

Barbara Lee  
Member of Congress

Tom Malinowski  
Member of Congress

Ro Khanna  
Member of Congress

Don Beyer  
Member of Congress

David E. Price  
Member of Congress

Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress

Jason Crow  
Member of Congress

David N. Cicilline  
Member of Congress

Jesús G. “Chuy” García  
Member of Congress

Judy Chu  
Member of Congress

Deb Haaland  
Member of Congress

Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress

Ted W. Lieu  
Member of Congress

Jackie Speier  
Member of Congress

Joseph P. Kennedy, III  
Member of Congress

Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress

Karen Bass  
Member of Congress

Zoe Lofgren  
Member of Congress

Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress

Jennifer Wexton  
Member of Congress

Gerald E. Connolly  
Member of Congress

John Yarmuth  
Member of Congress

Anna G. Eshoo  
Member of Congress

Lori Trahan  
Member of Congress

Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress

Donald M. Payne, Jr.  
Member of Congress

Earl Blumenauer  
Member of Congress

Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress

Katherine M. Clark  
Member of Congress

Brenda L. Lawrence  
Member of Congress

Gwen Moore  
Member of Congress

Rashida Tlaib  
Member of Congress

Andy Levin  
Member of Congress