

June 13, 2013

The Honorable Frank R. Wolf 241 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Wolf:

Bread for the World is a collective Christian voice urging our nation's leaders to end hunger at home and abroad. We believe that we can end hunger in our time if there is the political commitment needed to overcome hunger and poverty.

We live in the world's wealthiest nation. Yet 14.9 percent of U.S. households—more than 50 million Americans, including 16.7 million children—struggle to put food on the table. In the United States, hunger is not caused by a scarcity of food, but rather the continued prevalence of poverty. Both issues must be addressed in our efforts to help those Jesus called "the least of these" (Matthew 25:45).

The most direct way to reduce hunger in the U.S. is through national nutrition programs. But while food assistance to hungry people is vital, it is not enough. We as a nation must come together to confront hunger and poverty in the United States.

We commend you for your efforts to promote bi-partisan engagement and discussion to identify concrete ways to end hunger and food insecurity in the United States. If there is any issue we should all be working together on, it is this one.

Bread for the World encourages any commission charged with investigating hunger in the U.S. not only to examine the systems that provide food to those in need but also to look in-depth at the underlying causes of food insecurity.

Thank you for your leadership.

Sincerely,

Eric Mitchell Director of Government Relations