



***"Speak out for those who cannot speak, for the rights of all the destitute. Speak out, judge righteously, defend the rights of the poor and needy." (Proverbs 31:8-9)***

All God's Children are being protected from sickness and death at a rate unprecedented in history. U.S. foreign assistance has helped lead the way—with funding, influence and leadership—and faith communities playing an integral role in this success.

***It's America's Untold Success Story.***

**Faith for International Assistance (FIA)** seeks to strengthen U.S. public support and funding for global health and development assistance through the voice and lens of faith. FIA is pleased to share its inaugural monthly update with you, shedding light on faith-rooted support of U.S. foreign assistance.

## **SPOTLIGHT: Setting the Global Table: Faith, Food Security and Nutrition**

[Click here to read previous months' spotlights](#)

Food Security and Nutrition are among the most important issues we face now and into the future. Globally, 795 million people remain hungry today. Between now and 2050, the global population is projected to rise from 7 to 9.2 billion people, demanding a 60% increase in global food production.

JUNE 13-14, Washington, DC: The U.S. Global Leadership Conference (USGLC) hosted its annual Summit. Headlining the impressive list of speakers was General David Petraeus and NBC's Chuck Todd who addressed today's challenging global landscape and the critical role development, such as food security, plays in making for a healthier, safer and more prosperous world. More info at: <http://summit.usglc.org/>.

JUNE 17-19, Johns Hopkins University: Among the Bible verses shared during Christian Connections for International Health's 30th annual conference this month was Isaiah 58:11: *The Lord will guide you continually, watering your life when you are dry and keeping you healthy, too. You will be like a well-watered garden, like an ever-flowing spring.*

MAKE SURE TO CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE FOR LOTS OF USEFUL NEWS AND REPORTS, CAPITOL HILL HIGHLIGHTS, CLERGY RESOURCES, AND SEE WHAT'S IN STORE FOR JULY'S SPOTLIGHT:

[WWW.FAITHFORINTERNATIONALASSISTANCE.ORG](http://WWW.FAITHFORINTERNATIONALASSISTANCE.ORG)

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“You and your organizations are God’s instruments to provide this ‘healing water’,” CCIH Executive Director, Garrett Grigsby, encouraged participants from 105 organizations from across the U.S. and 18 countries, CCIH’s largest conference to date. “In so many ways, you are an ‘ever-flowing spring’. You operate in resource poor, health care-starved locations... Ultimately, our work is about caring for the sick and helping the poor – the Bible certainly exhorts us to do this.”

The theme of this year’s conference was “Sustainability from a Christian Perspective” and discussions were wide-ranging: faith communities and Ebola recovery, engaging religious leaders in health work, integrating faith, maternal and child health, healthy timing and spacing of pregnancies, and more.

“Christian organizations have made significant contributions to sustainable development for decades,” Grigsby noted in opening remarks. “It takes implementing best practices from those who have gone before us. We have a lot to teach others, and there is much for us to learn. Your efforts are lifesaving and life changing, and worthy to last long after your program ends.”

Noting the hard work and coordination that goes into sustainable change, Grigsby expressed thanks for collaboration among faith-based and secular organizations and governments, including our own. More information at [www.ccih.org](http://www.ccih.org)

JUNE 29, Capitol Hill: “Our faith tells us that the poor will always be with us, but it does not say anywhere that they must be hungry and malnourished. Hunger and malnutrition are not the result of natural causes; they are the result of a community that has allowed it to occur.”

Rounding out the month, [World Vision](#), [Catholic Relief Services](#) and [Lutheran World Relief](#) were honored to join with the **Senate Hunger Caucus** to host a Congressional staff briefing to discuss the important role of the faith community in combating food insecurity and malnutrition. It was an opportunity to further educate Members of Congress and their staff about how public support for global nutrition, food security, and agricultural development is successfully leveraged and enhanced by U.S. and global faith communities.

“It is not good enough anymore to just feed hungry families one-by-one; we must actively and intentionally work to end hunger,” said Bread for the World President, Rev. David Beckmann. Faith-based organization leaders used hard data to challenge more than sixty participants to rethink some long-standing models. With particular focus on the irreversible damage of stunting – 160 million children suffer permanent cognitive and physical damage caused by hunger and malnutrition -- speakers called reaching hungry children with good nutrition “sacred work”. For more information contact Taylor Amos at [tamos@bread.org](mailto:tamos@bread.org).



*Photo: Food for the Hungry*

## FEATURED MEMBERS OF CONGRESS:

We highlight (and thank!) the bipartisan, international health and humanitarian commitments of Senators [Boozman](#), [Casey](#), [Durbin](#) and [Moran](#) in this month's Featured Members of Congress.

## FAITH + AID IN THE NEWS:

[Setting the Global Table](#) By Rev. Dr. Joel C. Hunter

[A New Model for 21st Century Missions: an Introduction](#) By Gary Edmonds, President, Food for the Hungry

[From Mission to Graduation: A New Model for 21st Century Missions](#) By Gary Edmonds, President, Food for the Hungry

[21st Century Mission: Graduating Families to Non-Violence](#) By Gary Edmonds, President, Food for the Hungry

[We Can Change History](#) By Gary Edmonds, President, Food for the Hungry

[Faith community issues call to action: end AIDS by 2030](#) World Council of Churches

[Former Military Leaders: 3 Lessons for Our Next Commander-in-Chief](#) By General James Conway & Admiral James M. Loy

[A Triple Blessing on Capitol Hill](#) By Anita Moreland Smith, President, Children's AIDS Fund International

## TOUCHING LIVES, GIVING THANKS

Last but not least, foreign assistance is about people. Year in and year out, U.S. foreign assistance helps millions of individuals around the world who are, in turn, deeply grateful for the care, compassion and hand-up.

USAID-funded emergency food distributions in Ethiopia's Sekota district, where Food for the Hungry is helping to fight the effects of the El Niño drought.

With help from USAID, Food for the Hungry and Ethiopian partner, ORDA, are reaching more than 289,000 individuals with food aid during dire times.



*Photo: Food for Hungry/Kebede Lulie*

**More information at:  
[www.faithforinternationalassistance.org](http://www.faithforinternationalassistance.org)**