



LOTT CAREY

Dr. Jesse T. Williams, Jr.
President

Rev. Emmett L. Dunn
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Rev. Gregory J. Jackson
Chairman

Statement from the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention on the Suspension of USAID Services

The Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention expresses profound concern over President Donald J. Trump's recent decision to suspend the operations of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) worldwide. This action threatens to reverse decades of progress in global health, education, and poverty alleviation, disproportionately affecting marginalized communities.

The Global Impact of USAID

For more than six decades, USAID has been instrumental in implementing humanitarian and development programs across approximately 120 countries. Its initiatives have addressed critical issues such as health, education, clean water, and economic development. Notably:

- **Health:** USAID's immunization programs have saved over 3 million lives annually. The agency has also been pivotal in combating HIV/AIDS through prevention education and training programs.
- **Family Planning:** More than 50 million couples worldwide have accessed family planning services as a direct result of USAID's initiatives.
- **Maternal and Child Health:** Since 2008, USAID's efforts in 25 priority countries have contributed to saving the lives of 4.6 million children and 200,000 women.

Consequences of the Suspension

The suspension of USAID's operations is anticipated to have dire consequences:

- **Health Crises:** The halt in funding has already led to the closure of field hospitals in regions like Syria, leaving millions without essential medical aid.
- **Educational Disruptions:** In countries such as South Africa, Ghana, Mali, and Sudan, the freeze on aid has disrupted health services and education programs, adversely affecting vulnerable populations.
- **Humanitarian Aid:** Critical support for Venezuelan refugees in Colombia and other humanitarian efforts in South America are now in jeopardy due to the cessation of USAID activities.

Challenges for Humanitarian Organizations

The suspension presents significant challenges for organizations like Lott Carey, which has been responding to human needs for 127 years and is currently active in 13 countries, providing assistance in education, healthcare, advocacy, and capacity building. The abrupt withdrawal of



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USAID support places an immense burden on our resources and capacity to fill the void left behind.

While we remain steadfast in our commitment to serve, the scale of USAID's operations is unparalleled. The suspension not only undermines ongoing projects but also threatens the lives of countless individuals who rely on these essential services.

A Call to Action

We urge the administration to reconsider this decision and recognize the invaluable role that USAID plays in fostering global stability and humanitarian aid. We also call upon the international community, partner organizations, and concerned citizens to advocate for the restoration of these critical services to prevent further suffering among the world's most vulnerable populations.

In these challenging times, Lott Carey reaffirms its dedication to its mission and will continue to work tirelessly to support those in need, despite the obstacles presented by this suspension.

Emmett L. Dunn
Executive Secretary-Treasurer/CEO