



Dear Alliance Members & Friends,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your unwavering commitment to the Alliance to End Hunger. This is a particularly exciting time for the Alliance, one that compels me to share my deepest gratitude for your partnership, support, dedication and time in helping us make great strides toward our mission to build the public and political will to end hunger.

- The Alliance to End Hunger continues to expand its reach and impact. After playing a key role in 2017 in obtaining an additional \$1 billion for famine relief, the Alliance and our allies recently came together to push for the successful passage of the Global Food Security Reauthorization Act, an enormous victory for hungry people around the globe. Further, the Alliance was able to mobilize members around support for a 2018 Farm Bill that preserved critical nutrition assistance for hungry families in the United States, while also improving global nutrition programming. We continue to be a thought leader on “Hunger is a Racial Equity Issue” and have been training other organizations and individuals on how to address this important, cross-cutting topic within their own work at major events across the country.
- We are equally excited to share that our Alliance grew to 96 members in 2018 (with the addition of seven new organizations), and we currently have 77 Hunger Free Communities (HFCs) that are part of our national Hunger Free Communities Network. Last October, we hosted our annual HFC Summit in Minneapolis, which attracted over 150 guests—a record attendance for the event. We also wrapped-up the first year of a three-year VISTA grant project, training seven VISTA leaders across the United States to engage volunteers and help address hunger within their communities. As a direct result of that work, 2,154 individuals across the United States have reported an increase in food security, an astonishing number that has surpassed our best expectations for the inaugural year.
- The Alliance to End Hunger has cemented its relationship as a lead partner of the food/agriculture-focused organizations within the United Nations (the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Food Programme (WFP), and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)). The critical work that we do with each of these organizations, from public awareness-building events, to strategically engaging key stakeholders around the world, to providing guidance and support on replenishing annual appropriation dollars from the U.S. government, impacts thousands of people. To further some of this work, the Alliance has taken over as host of the *Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) #2--Zero Hunger Advocacy Hub*. The Hub’s purpose is to provide a centralized platform for communication and coordination around civil society engagement related to SDG2. On the domestic front, the Alliance serves as the convener for the *National Anti-Hunger Organizations (NAHO) coalition*. We also serve as co-host of the *Vote to End Hunger coalition*, which reactivated in 2018 to make hunger, poverty and opportunity higher political priorities in the midterm elections, as well as the convener of the *Zero Hunger Corporate Roundtable*, a group of 15 corporations and corporate foundations committed to reduce hunger and food insecurity and build the public and political will to achieve SDG2.

Looking ahead, the Alliance has another impactful year planned with new opportunities we are eager to take advantage of. We will continue to be deeply committed to and focused on our

mission to engage diverse institutions to build the public and political will to end hunger by 2030. As we have learned, our strengths and unique value are directly tied to our high-level focus on hunger both domestically and internationally and the diversity of our members and allies. We have seen great success in engaging new sectors in anti-hunger advocacy (healthcare, volunteer-based organizations) and in providing a connecting point for a variety of coalitions.

The coming months will also see us focus on building our Ladders of Engagement initiative across our membership, Hunger Free Communities, advocacy work, and our international work. The Ladders of Engagement are a way to benchmark, goal-set, and measure progress amongst the various pillars of our work. We will continue to build off the success of our past two years and provide specific, timely, actionable and measurable advocacy opportunities to our members and the HFC network. We will leverage Alliance member expertise to educate our network on policy opportunities and challenges and continue to meet with Members of Congress and their key staff. We will also continue to serve as the backbone support for our Hunger Free Communities network and have added to our VISTA network (with four new VISTA sites scheduled to start throughout 2019). On the international side, we will continue to build our partnership with the United Nations food/agriculture-focused organizations and host the SDG2 Advocacy Hub—both of which position the Alliance as a critical player in the global arena.

We have much on the horizon, and our momentum together continues to build. We could not do what we do without the unwavering support of our membership and donor base, and I cannot express enough of my gratitude for your tremendous commitment to our mission. I look forward to working with you throughout the rest of this year and beyond.

Sincerely,



Rebecca E. Middleton
Executive Director