



July 14, 2025

Subject: Urgent Call to Action – Protect Life-Saving Aid & Refugee Programs

Dear Pastors, Church Leaders, and Fellow Advocates in Christ,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We write to you at a critical hour. Congress is currently considering a \$9.4 billion rescissions package - a move to cancel funds that were already approved and signed into law. These proposed cuts include:

- \$800 million for Migration and Refugee Assistance (MRA) – a quarter of the MRA budget. This program supports the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program, which many churches—including Latino congregations—have partnered with to welcome refugees since 1980.
- \$900 million in global health funding through PEPFAR (the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief), which evangelicals helped launch and have supported for two decades.
- Complete elimination of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, which funds PBS and NPR, vital resources for underserved and rural communities.

While these cuts represent less than 0.13% of the federal budget, their human cost is immense. These programs save lives, reflect American compassion, and empower churches around the world to be agents of healing and hope.

Why We Speak Up: Our Biblical Mandate

We are not driven by politics but by Scripture and moral conviction.

- *“Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves; ensure justice for those being crushed.”* — Proverbs 31:8 (NLT)
- *“The Lord watches over the foreigner and sustains the fatherless and the widow.”* — Psalm 146:9
- *“Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.”* — Matthew 25:40

As Latino evangelicals, we are a people of the Word and a people of compassion. We believe that how a nation treats the vulnerable is a reflection of its soul. These proposed rescissions would not just cut numbers on a page—they would sever lifelines for refugees, children, families living with HIV/AIDS, and struggling communities across the globe.

What Can You Do?

We urge you to:

1. Pray — for our elected leaders, and for the global families and ministries impacted by these decisions.
2. Act — Contact your U.S. Senators and urge them to protect these life-saving programs.

Use this link to find your Senators and send a message today:

<https://www.senate.gov/senators/senators-contact.htm>

You can simply say:

“As a pastor and faith leader, I urge you to oppose the rescissions package and protect funding for PEPFAR, refugee resettlement, and global humanitarian aid. These programs save lives and reflect our moral values.”

This is not about politics - it's about gospel values. It's about standing with the poor, the sick, the displaced, and the forgotten. It's about ensuring that the Church continues to be a beacon of hope in a world that desperately needs it.

Let us raise our voices in faith.

In Christ and in service,
Rev. Dr. Gabriel Salguero
Co-founder & President
National Latino Evangelical Coalition (NaLEC)
www.nalec.org