

COVID-19 RELIEF

TAKE ACTION ADVOCACY GUIDE



of Chattanooga

Girls Inc. of Chattanooga encourages all staff and board members to reach out to state legislators today and urge them to include nonprofits in COVID-19 Relief and Economic Stimulus Legislation.

In order to advocate for girls and families whose lives are being affected by the pandemic, we must be fully engaged in the crisis response, both in legislation, decision making, and in coordination efforts.

Don't bother calling the Governor's office (closed due to COVID-19). Send an email or tweet as soon as possible. Include the [Momentum Nonprofit Partners letter](#). You can also contact through the Governor's [website](#).

TIPS FOR WRITING YOUR LEGISLATORS

KEEP THE MESSAGE SIMPLE AND URGENT.

Keep the message is simple: "I want you to understand what this pandemic is doing to the ability of Girls Inc. of Chattanooga to serve your constituents." Tell your story. Close with something like, "I urge you to include the policy solutions proposed by the nonprofit community in any COVID-19 relief and stimulus legislation."

SHOW RESPECT.

In your tone and choice of words, show respect for anyone in public office you happen to be communicating with about this issue. Remember what our ultimate goal is inclusion. Come from a place of support for their work, not from a place of criticism.

A PARAGRAPH WILL DO.

A paragraph or two is sufficient. It is likely that our government officials are inundated with messages right now. Be short, concise, and to the point.

DON'T DISCUSS ANY OTHER ISSUES.

Focus on this urgent issue.

THANK THEM.

Express thanks to the legislator or other leader you may be writing to for serving our state and for considering helping us with this important issue