Ms. Melissa Rogers  
Executive Director  
White House Office of Faith-Based  
and Neighborhood Partnerships  
Washington, DC  20500

Dear Ms. Rogers:

Congratulations on your appointment by President Biden to serve as Executive Director of the White House Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships, and your additional position as Senior Director for Faith and Public Policy in the White House Domestic Policy Council. We commend you and President Biden in relaunching the Office to ensure the federal government will “better serve people in need through partnerships with civil society.” We are grateful that the Executive Order establishes the White House Partnerships Office and assigns it “lead responsibility in the executive branch for establishing policies, priorities, and objectives for the Federal Government’s comprehensive effort to enlist, equip, enable, empower, and expand the work of community-serving organizations, both faith-based and secular.”

We write as the Board Chair and President & CEO of the National Council of Nonprofits to offer the support and assistance of our network of charitable nonprofits – the largest in the country – in achieving the priorities identified in the Executive Order. The National Council of Nonprofits, through our core network of state associations of nonprofits, has more than 25,000 organizational members from coast to coast. Our work advances public policies and practices that support the work of all 501(c)(3) organizations – charitable, religious, and philanthropic – to advance their missions of helping people in local communities throughout the country.

We offer to be a trusted resource for accessing information about charitable nonprofits and identifying solutions to problems they face in serving their communities. See, e.g., *Nonprofit Impact Matters* and chart included below our signatures. Our unique structure — and the operating culture we’ve developed over the years — provides us with access to real-time information about what’s occurring “on the ground,” giving us real-world knowledge and insights that are unmatched in the sector. In particular, our network has extensive experience in advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion; reforming government grants and contracts programs at all levels of government; and advocating for practical and policy solutions that strengthen communities.

Our nationwide network reflects and strengthens the pluralism embraced by the White House Partnerships Office. We agree fully with the view expressed in the recent Fact Sheet on the establishment of the Office: “When Methodists and Muslims, Buddhists and Baptists, Sikhs and Secular Humanists serve together, we strengthen one another and we strengthen America.” Our charitable nonprofit members – those based in faith traditions and other community-serving organizations – are committed to the wellbeing of their fellow residents, and typically serve as both problem-solvers and convenors in their communities.

Our offer of assistance and engagement with the White House Partnerships Office is made in recognition of our status as a 501(c)(3) organization, which makes us scrupulously nonpartisan in all of our dealings, as required by law and good sense.

In closing, we celebrate that the new federal policy in the Executive Order recognizes these truths:

Faith-based and other community-serving organizations are vital to our Nation’s ability to address the needs of, and lift up, low-income and other underserved persons and communities, notably including persons of color. The American people are key drivers of fundamental change in our
country, and few institutions are closer to the people than our faith-based and other community organizations. It is important that the Federal Government strengthen the ability of such organizations and other nonprofit providers in our communities to deliver services effectively in partnership with Federal, State, and local governments and with other private organizations."

Again, congratulations on your appointment. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Marnie Taylor
Board Chair, National Council of Nonprofits
and
President and CEO
Oklahoma Center for Nonprofits