



## How to Call Your Member of Congress

- 1) Call the Capitol Hill main line: 202-224-3121
- 2) Ask to be connected to your Senator's or Representative's office.
- 3) The front office will answer the phone. Tell the staff member who answers the phone that you have an opinion on **global health and foreign aid** that you would like to share with the member of Congress and ask if you can leave that opinion with the staffer.
- 4) Deliver your talking points.
  - I represent the *Shot@Life* campaign in your [district/state]. The campaign is part of the UN Foundation and educates, connects, and empowers Americans to champion global vaccines as one of the most cost-effective investments the U.S. government can make to save the lives of children in developing countries.
  - Vaccines against diseases like polio and measles are one of the most cost-effective ways to save the lives of children in developing countries. However, despite significant progress, one in five children still lacks access to life-saving immunizations.
  - **Measles:** Measles deaths have decreased by over 79% since 2000, but there are still 314 deaths per day, mainly in children under 5 in Africa and Asia.
  - **Polio:** 30 years ago, polio paralyzed over 1,000 kids each day. Thanks to the polio vaccine, cases have dropped by 99.9%. However, a few countries still fight this deadly disease, and momentum must be sustained to achieve global eradication.
- 5) State the ask: "The House and Senate appropriations committees have approved legislation that provide strong investments in global immunization programs, but much work remains before the end of the fiscal year. I ask that you continue to support robust funding for global vaccination activities, including:
  - **\$233 million for Polio eradication**, specifically:
    - **\$174 million for CDC** through the Labor-HHS Appropriations Subcommittee
    - **\$59 million for USAID** through the State and Foreign Operations (SFOPS) Appropriations Subcommittee
  - **\$50 million for CDC measles elimination** through the Labor-HHS Appropriations Subcommittee
  - **\$275 million for GAVI** through the State and Foreign Operations (SFOPS) Appropriations Subcommittee
  - **\$132.5 million for UNICEF** through the State and Foreign Operations (SFOPS) Appropriations Subcommittee
- 6) Ask if he or she requires any follow-up information. Most Congressional offices track phone calls by area code. Some may ask for your name, some may not.
- 7) You may also ask if the member has a current stance on global vaccines, global health or foreign aid.
- 8) Thank the staffer for his or her time and record your advocacy action on the Champion Community website.