

Call Your Legislator: 10 Points

You can earn up to 30 points by calling your members of Congress. Follow the steps and talking points below to reach out to your legislators by phone.

- 1. Call the Capitol Hill at 1-844-368-0294
- You will be prompted to enter your zip code. After a 10 second message from Shot@Life, you
 will be prompted to press #1 to be connected with your House rep, #2 to be connected to your
 first Senator, or #3 to be connected with your second Senator. You can call through the system
 multiple times to reach all three.
- 3. 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.
 - 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:
 - \circ \$176 million for CDC through the Labor-HHS Appropriations Subcommittee
 - \circ \$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
- \$290 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 the staffer 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. Request a reply with a response indicating the member's position on the matter.
- 8. Thank the staffer for his or her time and record your advocacy action on the Champion Community website or email us at <u>champions@shotatlife.org</u>