

# Inside This Issue

The Big Bad Budget Law Hurts Our Communities

Cut Out and Share\_NETWORK's Zine!

# RADIATEYOUR



ROMER



Grounded in Gospel values and the Catholic social justice tradition, NETWORK transforms our society by shaping federal policies that achieve racial, economic, and social justice; serve the common good; and honor the dignity of all.

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## **NETWORK ADVOCATES FOR CATHOLIC SOCIAL JUSTICE**

Teresa Kotturan, SCN

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# ON THE COVER

Meg Olson, Director of NETWORK Grassroots Mobilization, and Laurie Carafone, Executive Director of NETWORK, participate in the Aug. 22 Multifaith Prayer Vigil in Washington, D.C., held in response to the Trump administration's militarization of the city. The Washington Interfaith Network (WIN) sponsored the event in collaboration with other faith and justice groups. Photo: Jessica Zurcher

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# Faith in Our Action

# The Bond Between Us is Stronger Than the Grip of Fascism

he world today can test our faith. The harm inflicted on so many of us in our human family can and should take our breath away.

The NETWORK family—staff, advocates, supporters—is a vibrant, diverse group. The same is true of our country. As we stand on the precipice of losing the sacred freedoms we all hold dear—including the right to express what we believe—we find ourselves reaching out, calling each other into a collective holy space that welcomes everyone, no exceptions.

Darkness is bringing the light into sharper relief, and we see clearly that love, mercy, kindness, and taking care of each other are the core of our nature as God's children. And knowing this compels us to respond: all the great faith traditions call us to transformative action, to walk the path of justice, mercy, and love.

We know that widespread non-violent civil resistance—steeped in love for each other and our shared values—can and has saved democracies. I am so grateful to have found a new home working with this tapestry of faithful justice-seekers at a place aptly named NETWORK.

Kilmar Ábrego Garcia, a Maryland man that the Trump administration admits it mistakenly deported to a Salvadoran prison notorious for terrifying conditions and torture, recently called us into this truth, saying, "God is with us, and God will never leave us. God will bring justice to all the injustices that we have suffered." Incredibly, Kilmar shared these words of hope with us, even knowing the Trump administration was working to deport him again.

What profound faith. It reminds us that faith has power that cannot be defeated, the power to unite people amidst so much hate and division. We are watching a tapestry grow around us, sewn of the common threads of decency that people everywhere share, despite our political differences or pol-

icy disagreements. We are seeing that people are holding the fragile heart of democracy and reminding one another of our universal dream for a safe and healthy future for ourselves and our families.

As I have transitioned into the role of NETWORK's Executive Director, I have witnessed the awesome power of unity as NET-WORK staff, Board members,



Laurie Carafone

advocates, partners, congregations, and charism carriers each embody a vital part of a larger whole that can move mountains.

NETWORK foundress and our first national director, Sr. Carol Coston, OP, who turned 90 in September, put it plainly: "Use whatever skills and aptitudes you have. ... It's a mutuality, by doing your part." Her faith-filled vision lives on at NETWORK today.

Together we can help our country weather this period of extreme turmoil. We know that widespread non-violent civil resistance—steeped in love for each other and our shared values—can and has saved democracies. I am so grateful to have found a new home working with this tapestry of faithful justice-seekers at a place aptly named NETWORK.

All of you, and our non-profit partners in the work—So-journers, Friends Committee on National Legislation, Faith in Action, Gameliel, Coalition on Human Needs, National Council of Churches USA, Children's Defense Fund, and many others—create a vast net that binds countless people together and aligns into precisely the movement this moment requires.

Faith runs through our witness like a river, and we must trust in our mutual capacity to overcome and transform the existential threats of our time. We are in this together. With the bonds between us, our actions are more powerful than we could ever imagine. Thank you for joining NETWORK in this moment. When we look back, we will remember we stood together and did all we could for justice and love.

Laurie Carafone is NETWORK's Executive Director.

# **Notable Quotables**

What justice-seekers have been saying this quarter

"We the People are more powerful than these oppressive forces! Like the monarch butterfly, which is currently on its long migration across the United States to Mexico, we carry a vision of freedom, beauty, and resilience. Migration is natural. Movement is life.

And together, we embody hope for a better future."

— Ashley Williams, Executive Director of Just Transition Northwest Indiana "We must join in solidarity with many unorganized and organized workers today who are beginning to realize their power to come together and bravely demand what is rightfully theirs."

— NETWORK's 2025 Labor Day Statement, Aug. 27

"This show is not important.
What is important is that we get
to live in a country that allows us
to have a show like this."

— Jimmy Kimmel, in his monologue following his suspension
by ABC and Disney for remarks he made about the response
to Charlie Kirk's death.

"We urge our Church
leadership, including
Cardinal Dolan, to lift up
witnesses whose lives
truly reflect the Gospel
of Jesus Christ — lives
of humility, justice,
compassion, and peace."

— Leadership Team, Sisters of Charity of New York in a Sept. 24 statement, in response to Cardinal Timothy Dolan referring to Charlie Kirk as "a modern-day St. Paul" "This unneeded hypermilitarization of a peaceful city is designed to send an authoritarian message rather than address any legitimate community

 NETWORK's Min. Christian S. Watkins on the Trump administration's occupation of Washington D.C., Aug. 20 "We should not have to live in a country where the Glovernment can seize anyone who looks Latino, speaks Spanish, and appears to work a low wage job. Rather than stand idly by while our constitutional freedoms are lost, I dissent."

— Justice Sonia Sotomayor, dissenting from the Supreme Court ruling permitting racial profiling in immigration raids, Sept. 8

"[V]ery significant is the continuously wider gap between the income levels of the working class and the money that the wealthiest receive. ... Elon Musk is going to be the first trillionaire in the world. ... If that is the only thing that has value anymore, then we're

— Pope Leo XIV on what's behind polarization in a Sept. 14 interview

in big trouble."



The sister of deported West Liberty soccer star Pascual Pedro and Rev. Guillermo Treviño Jr., president of Escucha Mi Voz Iowa, lead 200 people in Davenport on July 10, urging Iowa congressional delegation to bring back Pascual, stop mass deportations, and keep families together.

# Resilience is Resistance

Local Providers See Harms of Federal Cuts and Work to Respond

BY JANE SUTTER

Then Congress passed the Big Bad Budget Law in July despite intense lobbying by NETWORK's field advocates, and partners, it was certainly a cause for mourning and outrage. But these spirit-filled justice-seekers refuse to give up. They are focused on how the law hurts millions of people and starkly contradicts NETWORK's policy goal of "An Economy for All."

During a webinar in September, NETWORK staff outlined their lobbying priorities for the fall and emphasized "we are in this for the long haul."

Those priorities include continuing to fight against devastating funding cuts to SNAP and Medicaid and the use of those funds to increase mass deportation of immigrants. NETWORK is also addressing cuts that threaten housing stability and tenant protections, as well as the weakening of environmental protections and efforts to sell off federal lands.

Educating constituents is key, said Meg Olson, director of grassroots mobilization for NETWORK. "Most people had not

(continued on page 6)



Francisco Pedro Diego, grandfather of deported West Liberty soccer standout Pascual Pedro, speaks to hundreds outside the Cedar Rapids Federal Building on July 29, calling on Iowa's congressional delegation to free Noel López and bring back Pascual.

heard of this bill, and as soon as they did, they were against it," she said.

A popular new way for NETWORK to educate voters is through its zine, a folded booklet that, with a few words and illustrations, explains how the law hurts people and what to do to take action. The resource focuses on cuts to health care and food programs, along with the targeting of immigrants.

# **Losing Medicaid makes America less healthy**

The nine Community HealthNet Health Centers in Lake County, Ind., serve adults and children from "head to toe," with their comprehensive services that include care for medical, dental, mental health, substance abuse and more, according to Dr. Janet Seabrook, CEO of Community HealthNet.

"Most people had not heard of this bill, and as soon as they did, they were against it."

MEG OLSON, NETWORK DIRECTOR OF GRASSROOTS MOBILIZATION

Currently, about 70 percent of clients receive Medicaid, with the rest having coverage from Medicare and private insurance or no insurance, Seabrook said. She is worried that the latter number, while currently small due to the provisions

# "If they pay for health insurance, then they can't pay the light bill or they can't pay their rent."

DR. JANET SEABROOK, CEO OF COMMUNITY HEALTHNET

of the Affordable Care Act, will grow when Medicaid cuts are enacted.

"I think that what is not understood is that many of the people who have coverage under the state's various plans for Medicaid, they work," she said. "They are working but they are working jobs that don't offer coverage" such as part-time jobs. A person might be working two part-time jobs, neither of which offer coverage. "If they pay for health insurance, then they can't pay the light bill or they can't pay their rent."

Seabrook worries that medical coverage for these clients might be cut off in the middle of a course of treatment or that clients will not be able to afford the medicines they need to counter conditions such as high blood pressure or diabetes. She also believes that people who lose Medicaid coverage will not see a primary care doctor and will wind up in an emergency room for non-emergency care, a trend that largely was reversed in recent years.

One sign of hope is that the Congressman for Indiana's First District, Democrat Frank Mrvan, has been "plugged into" the situation locally and has visited various health centers at the urging of Dr. Seabrook and other health center CEOs.

# **SNAP cuts will hurt working families**

Some 170 miles south, at the 14th and Chestnut Community Center in Terre Haute, Ind., children never leave hungry. After a full day of school, kids in the afterschool care program get a snack and later a homecooked meal before heading home.

Connor Scanlon, the center's director, is concerned about federal cuts to SNAP benefits for these families. "A lot of [the parents] have jobs but maybe they're making just enough to get by or maybe they are working multiple jobs to get by."

During the fall, the program averages 60 to 70 kids on a given day. Most of the children who attend the programs qualify for free or reduced lunch at school; about 60 to 70 percent are Black. Funding for the center's snacks and meal programs comes from reimbursements from federal programs. Scanlon is concerned about losing that and other grants.

The center also operates a weekly food pantry, which has seen a steady increase in clients, about 80 on days when it's open. But families are dealing with higher prices at the grocery store and potential cuts to Medicaid.

"There are so many families right now that are barely getting by with everything that's going on," said Scanlon. "Whatever cuts — minor, major — it's going to be tough, really hard."

# **Immigrants targeted**

Appointments for asylum seekers to check in at the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) field office in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, used to be routine matters, and immigrants were allowed to leave once their check-in was complete. But not anymore, said David Goodner, Executive Director of Escucha Mi Voz (Hear My Voice) Iowa, based in nearby Iowa City.

The Trump administration is "finding every way to deport people that they possibly can," Goodner said. The numbers bear him out. More people were arrested in, and deported from,

"We are seeing hundreds and thousands of people in red state lowa banding with their clergy and their elected officials and their neighbors."

DAVID GOODNER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF ESCUCHA MI VOZ IOWA

Iowa in the first five months of 2025 than the entire calendar year of 2024, according to *The Des Moines Register*.

In addition to making it more difficult for asylum seekers to stay in the United States, the Trump administration also is making it more difficult for them to work legally. Immigrants now must wait months rather than 30 days to get a work permit, Goodner said. "They're making it harder and harder; more fees and penalties."

But Goodner is seeing some success with community members, faith leaders, and elected officials banding together to help immigrants avoid deportation. On Aug. 5, more than 300 people gathered at a rally in Cedar Rapids to support five immigrant families prior to their checking in at the ICE field office. Local leaders accompanied each family to the check-in as a protective action. On that day, all five successfully completed their check-in. Unfortunately, on that day, some unac-



Seven clergy marched with hundreds to the Cedar Rapids Federal Building on July 29, joining families of detained lowa workers Noel López and Pascual Pedro to demand Congress stop mass deportations and keep families together.

companied immigrants were detained, according to *The Cedar Rapids Gazette*.

The Escucha Mi Voz office will have an estimated 2,000 immigrants come through its doors seeking help in 2025, Goodner said. The most popular services are free consultations with an immigration attorney and receiving a microloan to help them pay to start their legal case to be granted asylum.

Despite the ICE actions and Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds deploying state National Guard soldiers to assist them, Goodner is heartened by what he calls "moral outrage."

"We are seeing hundreds and thousands of people in red state Iowa banding with their clergy and their elected officials and their neighbors, and if we can do that, we can stop mass deportations and keep families together."

Jane Sutter is a freelance journalist based in Rochester, N.Y. and is part of the NETWORK Advocates Team in New York State.

# our spirit-filled network













- 1. NETWORK staff Chelsea Puckett, Ralph McCloud, Meg Olson, Laurie Carafone, and Elissa Hackerson participate in the Aug. 22 Multifaith Prayer Vigil in Washington, D.C.
- 2. Kathy Michel, a member of NETWORK's Cleveland Advocates Team, participates in a Labor Day event in North Canton, Ohio.
- 3. NETWORK Executive Director Laurie Carafone meets Sr. Sally Duffy, SC at the gathering of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR) in Atlanta in August.
- 4. Min. Christian Watkins of NETWORK's Government Relations Team demonstrates with clergy and service provider staff during the clearing of the Braddock's Rock homeless encampment in Washington, D.C.. on Aug. 14.
- 5. Jude Cruz, Caitlin Flanagan, Denise Goodman, Verna Foster, Sue Trnka, Maureen Hellwig, and Vic Douchette visit Rep. Jan Schakowsky (IL-09, fourth from right) to discuss immigration in their parish communities.
- 6. Sr. Susan McCarthy, RDC (seated center) and friends hold a "personal town hall" with Rep. George Latimer (NY-16).
- 7. Meg Olson and Sr. Ellis McCulloh, HM of NETWORK's Grassroots Mobilization Team table at the LCWR gathering in Atlanta in August.
- 8. NETWORK Executive Director Laurie Carafone meets Father Jim Martin, SJ at the August gathering of LCWR in Atlanta.

















NETWORK Advocates and their friends have been holding zine parties, folding copies of NETWORK's new resource on how the Big Bad Budget Law harms our communities. Pictured here:

1. Party hosted by Annie Kachurek in Cleveland; 2. Sisters of Charity in Cincinnati; 3. Lou D'Onofrio in New Jersey; 4. Ann Hayles in Missouri

# **ZINE ROCKSTAR**

Annie Kachurek and her husband, Bob, are already active and engaged members of NETWORK's Cleveland Advocates Team. But with distributing NETWORK's zine, Annie's taken it to the next level. In addition to hosting a folding party in her home, she brought copies of the zines to protests and even included it with deliveries of zucchini bread to her neighbors. (The zucchinis came right out of the Kachureks' garden!)





# Not on Our Watch, Not in Our Name

# Resistance and Persistence Build Community as We Search for Hope

he horrors of this current administration feel like they are coming at us rapid fire. As we at NETWORK have said for months, this is by design — with the hope that we, people united for the common good, lose focus in all of the chaos. They hope that we become burned out by everything that is happening at warp speed and lose steam. And, truth be told, we are tired, but we are not slowing down.

Years ago, I heard the phrase that we are called to touch the pain of the world. It felt heavy when I could not *respond* to all the pain in the world. Now this has taken many different forms, but I truly believe that touching the pain of this country and responding to it is a way that we all can practice accountability in 2025.

We need to know where our community is hurting—be it by an increased military presence patrolling our streets, immigration raids terrifying our neighbors, hospitals closing, or a lack of available food. As we become aware of the pain and devastation in our communities, we must be moved to act. This is our current form of contemplation in action and courageously speaking truth to power.

We are called not only to stand in the chasms—in the wake of raids, slashed funding, and fear—but to respond to it. We are called to be the tangible opposition to these horrors and advocates for a better tomorrow. No matter where we live, our walk of life, or whether we're college students or senior citizens, we are called to be an active form of resistance against the degradation of our democracy and our communities.

As Bishop Marianne Budde recently wrote: "We can rise to this moment, to do our part to stop those who are determined to dismantle the institutions, destroy the guardrails of our democracy, and accelerate the very trends we need to reverse for the human species to survive."

We are rising to the moment.

We call our Members of Congress. We send emails. We write letters to the editor. We put up billboards, pass out zines, attend workshops and webinars. We talk to our friends and family. Why? To hold our elected officials accountable and maybe, in some ways, to hold ourselves accountable to planting seeds for the greater good of our country.

Across the country, our Sisters and friends have been holding vigil at immigration detention centers, offering prayers and solidarity to those unjustly detained and their family members. In song and prayer, we line local streets with signs that say things



NETWORK's Sr. Eilis McCulloh, HM joined by Sr. Barbara Batista, SP, Sr. Dani Braught, ASC, and Meg Olson, NETWORK Director of Grassroots Mobilization at the annual August gathering of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious in Atlanta

like "Protect Families, Reject Deportation." This witness says to the wider community: This cannot happen in *our* name.

We are hosting letter writing campaigns and call-in days, continually widening the circle by inviting friends, neighbors, family, community members to participate. Through these invitations, we've heard from so many who made their first phone call. And it wasn't so scary after all!

Through it all, we

are rooted in community. Each time we join a vigil, protest, or webinar, we meet new people who share our passion. We build bridges. We resist together. We learn together. We celebrate together.

As Bishop Budde said in the same reflection: "We are the ones who must dare to believe that seeds of new possibilities, invisible to us now, have already been planted in the soil of our lives, and they are slowly taking root. New life will emerge from the ashes of what is lost."

It might not feel like there is a lot of new life emerging in the here and now. But I see it springing forth from every person crowded around tables folding zines, every street lined with people, every chapel filled with people praying, and every meeting room where people are gathered.

We are part of the movement to create an Economy for All, where all people, no matter their economic status, citizenship status, orientation, or ZIP code, have what they need to thrive.

Sr. Eilis McCulloh, HM is a Sister of the Humility of Mary and NETWORK's Grassroots Education and Organizing Coordinator.

# Breathing Unequal Air

# Lawmakers Have Made the Choice of Harming Our Planet and Our Families

magine that one Sunday morning you visit a parish in Anacostia, a historically Black neighborhood in Washington, D.C. After Mass, you encounter a grandmother named Maria just outside the church. As you chat, she tells you about her grandson, Luis, a bright nine-year-old who loves soccer but can't play for long. His asthma flares whenever the air quality index spikes—something that happens far too often in her community, where traffic from a nearby highway mixes with decades of industrial pollution.

"We keep an inhaler in every room of the house," she says quietly.

A story such as Maria's is heartbreakingly common. Communities of color and low-income families across the country are forced to breathe dirtier air, drink unsafe water, and pay higher energy bills than people in wealthier neighborhoods. Instead of addressing these inequities, Congress recently passed the Big Bad Budget Law, which strips away clean air and water protections, guts climate investments, and doubles down on fossil fuel subsidies.

Perhaps most devastatingly, Congress repealed Environmental Justice grants, funds that supported frontline communities in monitoring pollution, cleaning up contaminated sites, and holding polluters accountable. Without these resources, families like Maria's are left even more vulnerable.

The consequences will not stop at the city line. These roll-backs will ripple across the country: worsening asthma rates, contaminating groundwater, and driving up household energy prices as we remain locked into an outdated system that favors fossil fuels over renewable energy. At a time when families already face tight budgets, higher medical bills and energy costs will only widen the gap between the powerful few and the struggling many.

Pope Francis reminded us in *Laudato Si*' that "the climate is a common good, belonging to all and meant for all." Yet these actions signal a devastating shift away from this vision. They undermine our nation's capacity to respond to climate change, and they put corporate polluters ahead of human dignity.

At NETWORK, we know that climate justice is economic justice. The health of a child such as Luis—and millions like him—is inseparable from the health of our planet. When leaders repeal climate measures, they are choosing who gets to breathe clean air and who doesn't, who will pay higher energy bills and who will profit. These are moral decisions disguised as policy.

My own path to this work has taught me that advocacy is most powerful when it builds bridges across faiths, sectors, and communities. Progress happens when we show resolve, act collectively, and refuse to let polluters write the rules. Today, we need the same persistence. We cannot allow harmful ideologies or short-sighted politics to dictate the future of our common home.

In communities across the country this year, Catholics are responding through Pilgrimages of Hope for Creation, prayerful walks that embody our responsibility to creation and to one another.

The Season of Creation (September 1-October 4) invites us each year to reflect on precisely this call. It is a time to recognize that the cry of the Earth and the cry of the people are inseparable, and that our collective liberation depends on addressing both.

In communities across the country this year, Catholics are responding through Pilgrimages of Hope for Creation, prayerful walks that embody our responsibility to creation and to one another. These pilgrimages remind us that every step toward justice—whether on the streets of our neighborhood, in a parish hall, or on Capitol Hill—matters.

Soon, members of Congress will be forced to reckon with their complicity in dismantling climate safeguards. But they also have the choice to reject polluter-driven rollbacks and embrace policies that protect creation, safeguard children like Luis, and build an economy rooted in justice and sustainability, an economy for all.

People who live with the struggles faced by Maria and Luis deserve better than another generation of unhealthy air and poisoned water. They deserve a future where clean energy lowers bills, environmental justice grants heal neighborhoods, and hope—not harm—fills their lungs.



Drake Starling is NETWORK's Senior Government Relations Advocate on Energy and Environmental Policy.



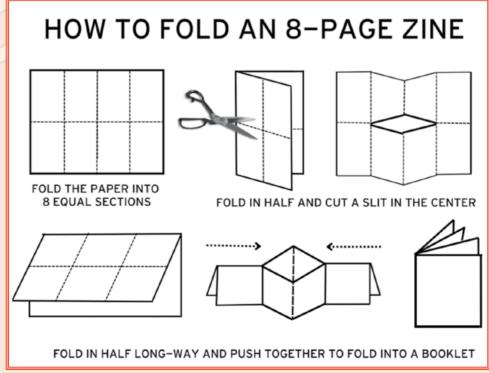


# **NETWORK's zine shows**

- how the budget law hurts us, and
- what we can do about it

# Fold your own copy!

Visit our NETWORK social media for videos tutorials on how to fold the zine, in both English and Spanish!



Source: Jewish Museum of Maryland

IETWORK ADVOCATES FOR CATHOLIC SOCIAL JUSTICE

The majority of Americans, across parties, oppose it.

ultra-wealthy in history. transfer of wealth from working people to the This law is the largest

Communities

Hurts Our

Big Bad Budget Law

How The

& what we can do about it



# Scan the QR code to...

zine and share copies of this . Tell others! them around Print more

skin or where we come from,

No matter the color of our

We deserve

better!

the table, affordable health

care, and to live in safety.

we all want good food on

NETWORK is a nationwide community with many ways to get involved 2. Get connected!

networkadvocates.org/budget-law

info@networklobby.org

We take care of each other!

We are coming together

to build a future where

all of us can thrive.

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NETWORK ADVOCATES FOR CATHOLIC SOCIAL JUSTICE

# y db

# 1. It guts Medicaid -

How this law hurts us

Kicking 17 million of us off our health insurance

giveaways to the richest 1% and leaves us with crumbs.

effect immediately;

Some things go into

not be felt until 2027 Medicaid cuts may

The law's "benefits" -

4. It hands \$1 trillion in tax

How this law hurts us

- Forcing nursing homes & hospitals to close,
- And raising care costs for everyone

**TAX BENEFIT** 

our health care, food, satety, and more

This law takes away

reconciliation bill. Republican budget On July 4, 2025, President

Trump signed into law the

our neighborhoods, separate 2. It gives ICE billions to raid loved ones and coworkers tamilies, and abduct our

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5. It worsens child poverty

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y Io que podemos hacer al respecto

que el proyecto fiscal hará a nuestras comunidades

# Folleto sobre el daño

presidente Trump firmó El 4 de julio de 2025, el el proyecto fiscal republicano.

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# info@networklobby.org

networkadvocates.org/budget-law



copias de este Imprime mas 1. ¡Corre la voz tolleto y

2. Conéctate con otras con muchas formas de una comunidad nacional personas. NETWORK es compártelas

seguridad

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venimos, todas las personas

nuestra piel ni de dónde

No importa el color de

*iMerecemos* 

TOMA ACCION

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¡Nos cuidamos entre todos!

podamos salir adelante

para construir un futuro

donde todas y todos

Nos estamos uniendo

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# energía limpia.

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5. Empeora la pobreza

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Deja sin seguro médico a

1. Recorta Medicaid:

17 millones de personas,

Obliga a cerrar hospitales

Sube el costo del cuidado

y asilos,

para todos.

demás.

podrían sentirse hasta

2027.

a ley se aseguraron de

que los regalos fiscales

sean **permanentes**. para los ultra-ricos



# Invite your loved ones to the NETWORK community!

When we work together, we answer the call to Gospel justice. Together, we are a unified national movement of diverse justice-seekers—a beloved community—who are consistently exercising our power to influence federal policies that dismantle systemic racism, center equity and reparatory justice, secure our democracy, protect our common home, and honor the dignity of all.

# Invite someone in your life to become a member.

Our annual membership dues to NETWORK Lobby begin at \$50. Seniors, students, and anyone living on a fixed income qualify for a reduced membership fee of \$20-\$49.

When you invite your friends and family to become NETWORK members, share with them how they will receive a year's subscription to *Connection*, our award-winning quarterly magazine; action alerts; invitations to our informative webinars; and the opportunity to join a NETWORK Advocates team. These resources and many others will help prepare them to promote legislative advocacy in their own community!

NETWORK Member shares why they support NETWORK:

"I needed to be more informed, and this forum supplied needed information. I have been a member for a long time. Thank you for what you are doing."

— BERNADETTE T., NEW JERSEY, A NETWORK MEMBER SINCE 2011.

Your family and friends can start their membership by making an annual investment of \$50 or more online at **networklobby.org/becomeamember** or by using the envelope inside this issue.

Additional membership options include:

- Join our Recurring Gift Program and become a recurring donor.
- Gift a NETWORK membership to others in your community to expand the reach and impact of our mission!
- Leave a legacy with our Bread and Roses Society through planned giving.

Grow our beloved community by inviting your friends and family to join us.

For membership questions, please contact our Development Team at 202-347-9797 or development@networklobby.org



820 First Street NE, Suite 350 Washington, DC 20002 phone: 202-347-9797 fax: 202-347-9864 www.networklobby.org www.networkadvocates.org

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This year the Catholic Media Association of the United States and Canada once again presented awards to NETWORK's Connection magazine in the following categories:

Magazine of the Year: Special Interest Magazine PLACE Editor: Don Clemmer, Designer: Maggie Powell

Best Regular Column on Religious Life: "Spirited Sisters" Authors: Sr. Catherine Ferguson, SNJM; Sr. Eilis McCulloh, HM; Sr. Emily TeKolste, SP; Sr. Erin Zubal, OSU

Best Coverage of Political Issues
PLACE Authors: Don Clemmer, Jane Sutter, Joan F. Neal, Ronnate Asirwatham

Our friends at *U.S. Catholic* magazine also took First Place – Best Coverage of Political Issues with an entry including an episode of Just Politics, the podcast co-produced by NETWORK and U.S. Catholic. Congratulations to our friends, and thank you to all of our beloved readers and listeners!

