



SISTERS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
NATIONAL ADVOCACY CENTER
Rise Up AND Act for Justice

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Calling on Administration to Reverse Course on Child Labor

(Silver Spring, MD) – “Workers in the United States and around the world now are being put at greater risk because the Trump Administration has just cancelled all of the grants distributed by the U.S Department of Labor’s Bureau of International Labor Affairs. Yet, even more concerning for the National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd is the children,” said Fran Eskin-Royer, Executive Director of NAC.

“Children from Brazil to Democratic Republic of Congo to Uzbekistan to Malaysia now are more likely to be injured or even to be trafficked.”

On March 19, the Child Labor Coalition of which NAC is a member sent a [letter to Secretary of Labor Lori Chavez-DeRemer](#) fearing that the new administration was indeed preparing to cancel these grants. In the letter, the Coalition noted “We write in support of ILAB, whose mission is to strengthen global labor standards, enforce labor commitments among trading partners, and combat international child labor, forced labor, and human trafficking.”

Further, the Coalition wrote “Each year, ILAB’s Office of Forced Labor, Child Labor, and Human Trafficking researchers conduct country-by-country analysis, searching for products and industries that use prominent levels of exploitative child labor, forced labor, and forced child labor, which often correlate with child and adult trafficking. This cutting-edge research helps direct ILAB’s technical assistance and strategic engagement with foreign governments, businesses, and worker organizations. ILAB strives to raise the standards of those international sectors, ensuring that U.S. companies and workers do not have to compete unfairly with countries and businesses that exploit children and profit from forced labor and human trafficking. ILAB’s in-depth research covers more than 150 countries, including China, with its alarming forced-labor issues.”

The Sisters of the Good Shepherd are known world-wide for work supporting women and children and in particular for combating child labor and human trafficking. “The last thing any of us wants to see happen is the loss of children to the snares of child labor and the horrors of child trafficking,” said Fran Eskin-Royer. “We call on the administration to reverse its decision and reinstitute these vital grants.”

[The National Advocacy Center](#) educates and advocates on social justice issues for the transformation of society to the benefit of all people reflecting the spirituality, history and mission of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd. NAC advocates at the Federal level for people living in poverty, immigrants, survivors of human trafficking, survivors of domestic abuse, and other vulnerable populations.

The National Advocacy Center reflects the spirituality, history and mission of the Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd (better known as the Sisters of the Good Shepherd). The sisters and their agencies work in solidarity with the disenfranchised – particularly families, women and children – who often are forgotten, left-behind or dismissed.

The Sisters of the Good Shepherd was founded in France in 1835 and is in 70 countries on 5 continents and has had a presence in the United States for over 175 years. With a presence in 22 states and 1 U. S. Territory, the Sisters and their Lay Mission Partners have dedicated themselves to serving girls, women and families who experience poverty, exploitation, vulnerability and marginalization.

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