

# LEADERSHIP 18

701 NORTH FAIRFAX STREET  
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T: 202-368-4177  
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LEADERSHIP18.ORG

## MEMBERS

**Susan Dreyfus\***  
CONVENING CHAIR  
President & CEO  
Alliance for Strong Families  
and Communities

**Gary Reedy**  
CEO  
American Cancer Society

**Nancy Brown**  
CEO  
American Heart Association

**Gail McGovern\***  
President & CEO  
American Red Cross

**Michael Surbaugh**  
Chief Scout Executive  
Boy Scouts of America

**Jim Clark**  
President & CEO  
Boys & Girls Clubs  
of America

**Sister Donna Markham**  
President & CEO  
Catholic Charities USA

**Michael Brown**  
CEO & Co-Founder  
City Year

**Claire Babineaux-Fontenot**  
CEO  
Feeding America

**Sylvia Acevedo**  
CEO  
Girl Scouts of the USA

**Judy Vredenburgh**  
President & CEO  
Girls Inc.

**Steven C. Preston**  
President & CEO  
Goodwill Industries  
International, Inc.

**Jonathan Reckford\***  
CEO  
Habitat for Humanity,  
International

**Jerry Silverman**  
President & CEO  
The Jewish Federations  
of North America

**Charlotte Haberaecker**  
President & CEO  
Lutheran Services  
in America

**Paul Gionfriddo**  
President & CEO  
Mental Health America

**James Firman, Ed.D.\***  
President & CEO  
National Council on Aging  
Commissioner

**David Hudson**  
National Commander  
The Salvation Army

**Brian A. Gallagher\***  
STANDING VICE CHAIR  
President & CEO  
United Way Worldwide

**Mike King**  
President  
Volunteers of America

**Kevin Washington**  
President & CEO  
YMCA of the USA

**Alejandra Castillo\***  
CEO  
YWCA USA

March 2019

**The Honorable Charles Grassley**  
Chair  
Committee on Finance  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

**The Honorable Richard Neal**  
Chair  
Ways and Means Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

**The Honorable Ron Wyden**  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Finance  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

**The Honorable Kevin Brady**  
Ranking Member  
Ways and Means Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Grassley and Neal and Ranking Members Wyden and Brady:

Leadership 18 supports the *Legacy IRA Act*, a bill to encourage charitable giving by enabling seniors to make tax-free contributions from their individual retirement accounts (IRA) to charities through life-income plans.

To operate effectively and advance our tax-exempt purpose, we are dependent on private philanthropy, including gift planning. A few years ago, when the IRA Charitable Rollover provision was made permanent in the PATH Act, many of our organizations saw a dramatic increase in charitable giving from IRAs. We believe the Legacy IRA bill simply offers another option and would incentivize more giving by seniors to help charities while helping seniors who need a lifetime income.

The undersigned CEOs support the Legacy IRA bill, which would allow seniors starting at age 65 to make tax-free IRA rollovers to charities through life-income plans (charitable gift annuity or charitable remainder trust). The senior's annual retirement income from the life-income plan is fully taxed. We believe this new giving option will be particularly attractive to middle income seniors.

Leadership 18 is an alliance of CEOs responsible for leading some of the country's largest and most well-respected charities, non-profits and faith-based organizations. As a group, member organizations serve over 87 million people annually, with 5.6 million staff and volunteers, and represent \$44 billion in total revenue. We are a community of leaders who share a profound commitment to ensuring that all individuals have the opportunity to contribute to a vibrant America, and with opportunity and effort, can live their lives to their fullest potential.

Leadership 18 offers our support and is willing to work with you and other Members of Congress to enact the Legacy IRA bill. America is stronger when everyone has the opportunity to give, to get involved, and to strengthen their communities.

\*Executive Committee Member

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**Alejandra Castillo\***  
CEO  
YWCA USA

Sincerely,  
Leadership 18

## Signers:



**Susan Dreyfus\***  
**President & CEO**  
**Alliance for Strong**  
**Families and**  
**Communities**



**Jim Clark**  
**President & CEO**  
**Boys & Girls Clubs**  
**of America**



**Sister Donna Markham**  
**President & CEO**  
**Catholic Charities USA**



**Gary Reedy**  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**American Cancer**  
**Society**



**Michael Brown**  
**CEO & Co-Founder**  
**City Year**



**Nancy Brown**  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**American Heart**  
**Association**



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