

# The Legal Landscape and Path Ahead for Nonprofits and Philanthropy

March 17, 2025

# Housekeeping

- This call is being recorded.
- All lines are in listen-only mode.
- Live captioning and ASL interpretation are available.
- Many questions were submitted during the registration process. We are going to cover as many as possible in the Q&A section.
- **A recording of this webinar will be posted on our YouTube channel and all registrants will receive an email from us tomorrow with a link.**

# Opening Remarks



**Diane Yentel**

President & CEO  
National Council of Nonprofits

# What We'll Cover

## Litigation Landscape



**Skye  
Perryman**

President & CEO,  
Democracy Forward



**Damon  
Hewitt**

President & Executive  
Director,  
Lawyers' Committee for  
Civil Rights Under Law

## Philanthropy's Role in Acting with Urgency



**Jean K.  
Ries**

Civil Society &  
Leadership Program  
Officer,  
The David and Lucile  
Packard Foundation



**Jason  
Cone**

Chief Public Policy  
Officer,  
Robin Hood

## Call to Action



**Tiffany  
Gourley Carter**

Public Policy Director  
& Counsel,  
National Council of  
Nonprofits

## Moderator



**Jessica  
Mendieta**

Policy Associate,  
National Council of  
Nonprofits

# What Can You Do Right Now?

## Call your Member of Congress:

- Find your member at this link:  
<https://www.usa.gov/elected-officials>
- Tell them **you are a constituent**. Ask to speak to the **Tax Staffer**.
- Follow the **script** below.
- Ask them to **protect nonprofits** doing irreplaceable work in the district and state **in upcoming spending and tax debates**.
- Keep the call to less than **5 minutes**.

# What Can You Do Right Now?

## Can I get a script?

- Explain **what your organization does** for constituents in the district and state.
- Share that you are **professionals** and **volunteers** working and serve the people in your district and state.
- Use **1-2 memorable numbers**.
- Invite them for an **on-site visit**.
- **Ask:** “Can we have the representative/senator’s support in upcoming tax and spending debates that impact us and his/her constituents?”

# What Can You Do Right Now?

## What if I get pushback?

Acknowledge them and share:

- “If our capacities get cut due to funding or tax changes, we will be forced to cut back or eliminate services. As a result, many of your constituents will lose services they are counting on.”
- “If support for nonprofits like ours goes away, the need for them still remains and will not be fulfilled.”
- “In upcoming spending and tax debates, it’s important that nonprofits services, like those in your district and state, are not eliminated or cut.”

**Thank the staffer** for their time, **invite them** to your facility, and **ask for their contact information** to keep them up to date on what you do. Promise not to spam them!

# What Can You Do Right Now?

## Framing considerations:

- Nonprofits form the cornerstone of civil society.
- Nonprofits do what government can't or won't do.
- Nonprofits are woven into the fabric of our communities and serve their constituents every day.
- If Congress weakens nonprofits, the challenges nonprofits address will remain and, in many cases, worsen.



# What Can You Do Right Now?

**Remember: You're the best messenger for your organization.**

- No one knows your organization better than you do.
- Members of Congress and staffers are people who also want to solve problems.
- Your phone call can make a significant difference!

**Q & A**

**Thank you!**

# NCN Network

