## JOHN GRISHAM DAVID J. BECK • TALMAGE BOSTON HARRIET MIERS • TERRY TOTTENHAM



Dear friend,

We are writing to tell you – our friends in the Texas legal community – about a critical effort to feed children across Texas and the country during this crisis. As trial attorneys, we have a long history of fighting for those less fortunate and **now we are making an urgent call to take action to stand with us in supporting our kids**.

We ask you to consider <u>supporting this incredible effort</u> by making a personal or corporate contribution. Currently, we are at \$1 million toward our \$5 million goal of emergency funding for Texas. Please know that these dollars are needed now, and that your support will ensure that hunger is one thing kids don't have to worry about right now.

Since March, the No Kid Hungry team has delivered critically needed technical assistance and funding to organizations working on the frontlines of the hunger crisis, and has already granted more than \$2.1 million to 80 Texas school districts, food banks, and community organizations. But as schools and organizations found new ways to deliver meals to children and families, whether on bus routes or drive-through pick up sites, they are still in desperate need of funding for labor, materials including protective gear for workers, transportation, and food as they work to continue meal service into the summer months.

As you know, nationwide school closures and record unemployment have exacerbated the hunger crisis across the country. More than 22 million public school students – 2.7 million in Texas alone – are missing the free, nutritious meals they rely on, and as we go through the summer months, the need is rising. As part of their direct emergency relief efforts, No Kid Hungry is working to help schools navigate rapid changes in state and district policies, adjust food delivery models to serve meals safely, and access financial resources to make sure they don't deplete their own operating budgets.



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To meet this urgent need, No Kid Hungry has mobilized an effort to provide schools and community partners in high-need areas in Texas the financial resources they need to keep children fed during these unprecedented times.

Because of their relationships with school leaders and program providers in Texas, and deep experience as advocates and grantmakers, No Kid Hungry is uniquely positioned to lead this effort.

As Share Our Strength's Founder and Executive Chair, Billy Shore, recently shared in an opinion piece on <u>CNN</u>, "While there may not be a cure for Covid-19 in sight, the hunger that so many families across the country are suffering while out of school and work is eminently and immediately solvable." With your help, we can stand together to make sure that no child is hungry in the months ahead.

Best regards,

John Grisham

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"My wife Renee and I are deeply committed to the effort to end childhood hunger in America.

We support the No Kid Hungry project and have seen firsthand its impact on some of our most vulnerable children.

Texas lawyers are known for their work ethic and generosity.

Please join us in this effort."

- John Grisham



P.S. For more information on these critical efforts, with examples of our impact, we've included an overview of No Kid Hungry's Texas COVID-19 response efforts as well as information on how you can get involved.