

In Honor Of

THE BORGEN PROJECT

LET IT BE KNOWN, That it is with the utmost respect and pleasure that we recognize The Borgen Project's work to prioritize global poverty reduction legislation in the U.S. Congress and mobilize Michiganders to advocate for female empowerment, health security, and human rights-oriented legislation. We add our sentiments of gratitude for years of advocating for efforts to fight global poverty and lobbying public officials and elected representatives to ensure that international development and aid are at the heart of our nation's foreign policy.

The story of The Borgen Project begins in 1999 when Clint Borgen was serving as a volunteer in refugee camps in Kosovo. Through this eye-opening experience, Borgen recognized the need for an organization that could advocate to place foreign aid and international development at the forefront of America's foreign policy debate. In 2003, The Borgen Project was formed in Tacoma, Washington. Since then, The Borgen Project has grown to operate in 1,952 cities across the United States, creating a network of activists mobilizing to make foreign aid a priority and meeting with Congressional officials to support legislation to strengthen America's aid efforts.

The Borgen Project has always believed that the United States should play a leading role in foreign aid efforts, given its tremendous resources. From advocating for the passage of strengthened foreign aid budgets to building coalitions of community organizations and individuals in pursuit of justice for the global poor, The Borgen Project has been a consistent champion of rallying both public and congressional support for expanded foreign aid efforts. These efforts are not limited to the federal level; in Michigan, The Borgen Project has worked to stress the link between investment in international development and aid and increased economic prosperity at home, as well as to mobilize Michiganders to fight for comprehensive human rights legislation and equal rights.

IN SPECIAL TRIBUTE, Therefore, this document is signed and dedicated to The Borgen Project in recognition of their work to prioritize foreign aid and global poverty reduction. We applaud its members' hard work, perseverance, and dedication that have expanded and strengthened The Borgen Project and send our best wishes for the project's continued success.

Gretchen Whitmer

The One Hundred and First Legislature At Lansing June 17, 2021