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Subject: More Important than Ever

As we move forward after Election Day, we are reminded that our collective work to ensure Justice in Aging is now **more important than ever**.

Justice in Aging was founded nearly 45 years ago to fight for the rights for poor older adults to live in dignity. There are over 6.5 million older adults living in poverty across the country. It is a group that relies on a strong social safety net to ensure access to health care, long-term services and supports, housing, food, and other basic necessities. That's why we have worked, and will continue to work, to strengthen –and protect from attacks–Medicare, Medicaid, the Affordable Care Act, Social Security, SSI, and the Older Americans Act.

Our commitment to defend these programs from attack is more important than ever.

Throughout our history we've focused on populations who, due to systemic racism and discrimination, have faced disparities in income, wealth, and access to health care; and who have traditionally lacked legal protections. These populations–people of color, people with disabilities, women, immigrants, LGBTQ individuals, and people with limited English proficiency–are populations who stand to suffer greatly from any cuts to the social safety net.

Our commitment to work on behalf of these older adults in greatest need is more important than ever.

A new administration and Congress will bring discussions of reforming and even cutting the social safety net upon which seniors rely. Whether new policies force us to defend ground we've gained, or offer opportunities to continue to make progress, we'll continue to partner with you and play the unique role we've always played: fighting senior poverty through law.

Our commitment to partnering with you and advancing a broad vision of Justice in Aging is more important than ever.

We will fight for a strong safety net and oppose policies that would dismantle or weaken programs seniors rely on. We will defend the rights of older adults who are limited English proficient, racial/ethnic minorities, immigrants, and LGBTQ to receive health care and other services free from discrimination. We will push for more opportunities for older adults to receive long-term services and supports at home and in the community. We will inform you about changes to laws that impact your clients' access to the services they need. We will continue to fight for justice in the courts whenever necessary to enforce the rights of the people we serve.

And we will count on you to join us.

In solidarity,

Kevin Prindiville,
Executive Director

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