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Adi Martínez-Román  
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Oxfam América

Via email: [adi.martinezroman@oxfam.org](mailto:adi.martinezroman@oxfam.org)

Dear Ms. Martínez-Román:

United Way of Puerto Rico is a private nonprofit organization which advances the common good by creating opportunities for a better life for all. We focus on education, health and financial stability as the building blocks for a good quality of life.

We have seen the challenges organizations have faced in the recovery process after hurricane María and share your objectives of ensuring transparent, accountable, equitable, and effective use of federal funds in Puerto Rico. Also, we share the believe that in order achieve this, Congress must promote the participation of civil society leaders in Puerto Rico.

Therefore, we support the concept of Puerto Rico civil society working directly in the coordination of recovery funds and with all federal and local agencies that play a role in Puerto Rico's recovery. As the concept has been developed through ample outreach, we agree that this working group should:

- Advise federal efforts, identifying improper and ineffective spending, the compliance with law and policies, and ensuring a focus on equitable resiliency throughout the recovery.
- Oversee the existence of effective processes, prioritizing participation processes during the planning and implementation phases.
- Oversee and require actions to ensure transparency and accountability to the Federal government and the people of Puerto Rico.
- Remain accountable to the groups that they represent, maintain gender parity as a priority, and ensure that the voices of women, elders, and the disabled are heard.

Thank you for the opportunity to collaborate.

Cordially,



Samuel González  
President