Our Vision & Mission

VISION STATEMENT
A Congress that better serves the People.

MISSION STATEMENT
The Congressional Management Foundation (CMF) is a 501(c)(3) nonpartisan nonprofit whose mission is to build trust and effectiveness in Congress. We do this by enhancing the performance of the institution, legislators and their staffs through research-based education and training, and by strengthening the bridge and understanding between Congress and the People it serves.
Message from the President & CEO

The year that has passed tested all American institutions, and the Congressional Management Foundation was no different. Our journey through unprecedented times was guided by three words.

**Resourceful. Resilient. Committed.**

**Resourceful.** At the onset of the pandemic CMF had the unique background and resources to serve our stakeholders’ needs. The management of responding to the pandemic was not the usual political exercise for Congress – lives depended on perfected execution of constituent services, and CMF gave unparalleled support to that cause.

**Resilient.** Our values and culture translated into strength and skills to quickly meet stakeholder needs during an uncompromising and unpredictable crisis.

**Committed.** Each new challenge was not a debilitating blow, but an opportunity for CMF to renew our commitment to serve our Members of Congress, their staffs, and the nation.

As we manage through a new year, a dark trial shrouds our democracy: January 6. Yet, we find comfort in the words of Susan L. Taylor, “Seeds of faith are always within us; sometimes it takes a crisis to nourish and encourage their growth.”

As reverent institutionalists, CMF will continue to nourish the seeds of faith in our democracy. Erasing cynicism with realistic solutions for citizens, combatting hopelessness to replenish Members’ and staff minds and souls, and recommitting to sustain and renew the greatest democratic institution ever created: the United States Congress.

**Bradford Fitch**
President & CEO
Year in Review

- **1,800+** DIRECT CMF INTERACTIONS WITH CONGRESSIONAL STAFF AND MEMBERS
- **400+** CONGRESSIONAL OFFICES REACHED THROUGH DIRECT INTERACTIONS
- **26** CMF TRAININGS AND PRESENTATIONS FOR CONGRESS
- **1,400+** CONGRESSIONAL STAFF, INTERNS, AND INCOMING MEMBERS TRAINED
- **64** CMF TRAININGS AND PRESENTATIONS FOR CITIZEN-ADVOCATES
- **6,226** CITIZEN-ADVOCATES TRAINED
- **31** ONE-ON-ONE CONSULTATIONS WITH CITIZEN GROUPS
CMF Began Remote Work on March 13

Capitol Hill Followed Soon Thereafter

In less than 2 weeks we conducted our first crisis management webinar for hundreds of congressional staff and trained 500+ constituents on how to conduct their advocacy fly-ins virtually.
CMF works directly with Members of Congress and staff to enhance their operations and interactions with constituents.

Our services, adapted to the unique congressional environment, include:

- Management books and guidance
- Customized consulting services
- Training and professional development
CONGRESSIONAL CRISIS PREPARATION & RESPONSE CENTER

CRISIS MANAGEMENT WEBINARS
Focused on remote work, managing stress, and adapting DC and district/state operations

BIPARTISAN VIRTUAL TOWN HALLS
Collaborated with elected officials, public health experts, and academics to slow the spread of the virus

REMOTE WORK RESOURCES
Partnered with the Modernization Staff Association, College to Congress, and others on "Work From Home Guide" and transitioning congressional internships to virtual

The Importance of Your Work

• The world has changed and our normal ways of operating have to change
• You will be dealing with death
• You will be responding to people who are suffering, angry, frightened, who have lost everything including family members and dreams
• You are vital now more than ever
Through our work with Congress, we knew that Members and staff were going above and beyond to fulfill their duty to constituents. This dedication to public service is at the core of our annual Democracy Awards program.

Celebrate the Best in Congress.
2020 Virtual Ceremony featured 23 Members of Congress, 21 staffers, and a tribute to our two Lifetime Achievement Winners: Representatives John Lewis and Amo Houghton.
"It's the team that deserves the award more than myself. We are proud of the award and we are proud of the work that we do. We are not interested in being the 2nd best congressional office and they make it happen."
— Rep. Seth Moulton (D-MA)

"My staff are absolutely some of the best in the field when it comes to getting responses from the federal agencies. I wouldn't be where I am today without them."
— Sen. John Cornyn (R-TX)
Congratulations to our 2020 CMF Democracy Award Winners and Finalists!

**CONSTITUENT SERVICE**
- Rep. Cheri Bustos (D-IL)
- Rep. Kendra Horn (D-OK)
- Rep. Seth Moulton (D-MA)*
- Rep. Donna Shalala (D-FL)
- Rep. Don Bacon (R-NE)
- Sen. John Cornyn (R-TX)*
- Rep. Mike Kelly (R-PA)
- Rep. Rob Wittman (R-VA)

**"LIFE IN CONGRESS" WORKPLACE ENVIRONMENT**
- Rep. Ro Khanna (D-CA)
- Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY)
- Rep. Donna Shalala (D-FL)*
- Sen. Steve Daines (R-MT)
- Rep. Adrian Smith (R-NE)*
- Rep. Fred Upton (R-MI)

**INNOVATION & MODERNIZATION**
- Rep. Derek Kilmer (D-WA)
- Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY)
- Rep. Mark Takano (D-CA)*
- Rep. Kay Granger (R-TX)*
- Rep. Tom Graves (R-GA)
- Rep. Rob Woodall (R-GA)

**TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY**
- Rep. Cindy Axne (D-IA)
- Rep. Chrissy Houlahan (D-PA)*
- Rep. Tom O’Halleran (D-AZ)
- Rep. Michael Burgess (R-TX)*
- Rep. Will Hurd (R-TX)
- Rep. Van Taylor (R-TX)

*denotes winner

Thank You to Our Founding Partner
[BRIDGE ALLIANCE]

and our Platinum Sponsors
- Capital One
- CMS Energy
- National Write Your Congressman Society for Human Resource Management
MEMBER LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

REP. JOHN LEWIS (D-GA) & REP. AMO HOUGHTON (R-NY)

John Lewis and Amo Houghton maintained a deep and abiding friendship and worked across the aisle not only on legislation, but on moral leadership.

They led annual civil rights commemorations by marching across the Edmund Pettus Bridge and worked tirelessly to recognize Nelson Mandela with a Congressional Gold Medal.

CMF is honored to posthumously award Representatives Lewis and Houghton for their exemplary careers in Congress.

Photo credit: Faith and Politics Institute

STAFF LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

Recognizing individuals who have had positive impacts on the management and operations of Congress, and honoring the dedicated public servants who work mostly behind the scenes to help citizens and improve the institution.

Kevin Fogarty, Chief of Staff, Rep. Peter King (R-NY)

*Liz McBride, Director, Office of Employee Assistance (OEA), U.S. House of Representatives

Janine Osborne, Director of Constituent Services, Rep. Mark Walker (R-NC)

Tim Rieser, Minority Clerk, Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations; Senior Foreign Policy Aide, Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-VT)

Lisa Sherman, Chief of Staff, Rep. Susan Davis (D-CA)

*denotes winner
“Through bipartisan collaboration & a commitment to reform, the @ModernizeCmte I lead has approved nearly 100 recommendations to make Congress work better for the American people. Grateful to Brad Fitch & @congressfdn for their partnership in this effort”
—Rep. Derek Kilmer, Chair of the House Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress

“Rep. Baird's presentation was by far the best, most effective in terms of communicating real practical tools for our use.”
—House Chief of Staff

“Love this entire series and appreciate the presenters very much.”
—House District Director

“I just wanted to send a HUGE thank you for all of your help with our staff retreat. I got so much positive feedback from the staff.”
—House Chief of Staff
Citizen Engagement

Improving the Democratic Dialogue

CMF's Partnership for a More Perfect Union is dedicated to enhancing citizen engagement and improving communication between citizens and Congress.

Based on our research with House and Senate staff, we provide guidance to constituents and advocacy groups on how to best communicate with Capitol Hill, giving the People a stronger voice in policy outcomes and greater trust in their democratic institutions.
Partnership Also Adapts to Crisis
CMF Conducts Research & Training on How to Best Communicate with Congress and Engage in Advocacy Remotely

MARCH
Hundreds of advocacy fly-ins are canceled or postponed

MARCH 11
Final in-person training

MARCH 24
500+ trained for Council for Opportunities in Education's virtual fly-in

MARCH-MAY
Live polling of congressional staff on effective communication methods & tactics

APRIL-MAY
Webinars on “How Congress is Interacting with Constituents During the Coronavirus Outbreak”

Video Meeting Capabilities

- Nearly all of our staff can engage in video calls (66%)
- A majority of our staff (i.e., 50% or more) can engage in video calls (13%)
- A majority of our staff (i.e., more than 50%) can engage in video calls (13%)
- Almost no one on our staff can engage in video calls (5%)
As the pandemic wore on, CMF continued to adapt our programming, conducting more research and training citizen-advocates on virtual site visits and Hill meetings.

**MAY-JUNE**
Survey and interviews with senior congressional staff on their office operations and constituent communications during COVID-19.

**AUGUST**
Release of “The Future of Citizen Engagement: Coronavirus, Congress, and Constituent Communications.”
200+ professional advocates representing 150 groups participated in CMF’s first-ever survey of advocacy organizations.

Value vs. Investment (Strongly agree)

- My organization's leadership values and supports the lobbying and grassroots advocacy team's efforts: 96%
- My organization's lobbying and grassroots advocacy team has the resources (i.e., tools, time, and money) needed: 31%

Also committed to providing additional value to our partners.
Feedback from citizens and our Partners

“We’ve seen more than a seven-fold increase in federal funding for Alzheimer’s research, and much of that success rests with committed and well-trained citizen-advocates – a direct result of our work with CMF.”
—John Funderburk, Vice President, Advocacy Alzheimer’s Association & Alzheimer’s Impact Movement

“We’ve seen more than a seven-fold increase in federal funding for Alzheimer’s research, and much of that success rests with committed and well-trained citizen-advocates – a direct result of our work with CMF.”
—Jim Wilson, Director, Political Affairs National Apartment Association

“Your ability to survey Congress AND get the response you got during the COVID-19 crisis, then to present findings to your members and stakeholders was yet another really great service delivered by CMF.”
—Jim Wilson, Director, Political Affairs National Apartment Association

“CRS is so grateful for the partnership with CMF and for your organization’s work—it helps us better do our mission and we are very grateful also for how it helps contribute to our democracy.”
—Catholic Relief Services
We are a unique organization that is needed now more than ever. Ensuring that the public, and Congress itself, understands best practices for democracy is vital.

As a 501(c)(3) nonpartisan nonprofit, CMF relies on the generosity of corporations, associations, foundations and individuals. Please show your support by making a contribution. Donors at all levels are welcome and contributions are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

We Need Your Help to Continue This Work.

DONATE
Thank You To Our Supporters.

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Alzheimer's Association
American Academy of Dermatology
American Academy of Ophthalmology
American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS)
American Academy of PAs
American Association of Nurse Anesthetists
American College of Preventive Medicine
American College of Surgeons
American Council of Life Insurers
American International Automobile Dealers Association (AIADA)
American Library Association
American Medical Association
American Physical Society
American Physical Therapy Association
American Psychological Association
American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)
American Veterinary Medical Association
Bloomberg Government
Bridge Alliance
CapitalOne Bank
CARE USA
Catholic Relief Services
CMS Energy
College of American Pathologists
Congressional Black Caucus Foundation
Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute, Inc.
Council for Opportunity in Education
Credit Union National Association (CUNA)
Emergency Nurses Association
Environmental Defense Fund
Feeding America
FMI - The Food Industry Association
FMR, LLC
Forum For Youth Investment
Friends Committee on National Legislation
General Motors Corporation
GoRail
Government Affairs Institute at Georgetown University
HCA Healthcare
Independent Community Bankers of America (ICBA)
International Paper
Invest in the USA
Jerry Prout
KnowWho
Lithuanian American Community
MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership
Michael J Fox Foundation
National Apartment Association
National Association of Chain Drug Stores
National Association of Community Health Centers
National Association of Counties
National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors (NAIFA)
National Association of REALTORS
National Corn Growers Association
National Council for Mental Wellbeing
National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization
National League of Cities
National PACE Association
National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA)
National Rural Letter Carriers’ Association (NRLCA)
National School Boards Association
National Write Your Congressman
New York Life Insurance Company
Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance
Nurse-Family Partnership
Patricia McGinnis
PG&E Corporation
Project On Government Oversight
Raytheon
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
School Nutrition Association
Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America
Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM)
State Farm Insurance
Stephen Larkin
Steven Bosacker
Susan G Komen
Texas Realtors
The Szekely Family Foundation
The Zodiac Group
United Way Worldwide
UPS Corporate Public Affairs
Winning Connections
Xcel Energy

Join the Congressional Leaders Circle
Financials

Revenues and Expenditures (2017-2020)

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Revenues</th>
<th>Expenditures</th>
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Fundraising by Sector 2020

- Government: 7.8%
- Nonprofit: 13.4%
- Individual: 1.1%
- Foundation: 17.5%
- Corporation: 15.6%
- Association: 44.5%

*Unusual deficit largely due to a 2020 grant payment received in early 2021.
Our Staff

CMF staff has more than 140 combined years of experience working for and with the Congress, including both parties and chambers

As of June 2021

Bradford Fitch  
President & CEO

Nicole Folk Cooper  
Acting Vice President  
Director of Research & Publications

Kathy Goldschmidt  
Director of Strategic Initiatives

Jaime Werner  
Director of Planning & External Relations

George Hadijski  
Director of Congressional Programming

Bradley Joseph Sinkaus  
Associate Manager of Congressional Operations

Sarah Thomson  
Manager of Operations

Seth Turner  
Director of Citizen Engagement

Jantzen  
Service Dog-in-Training (2020-2021), Canine Companions for Independence
Ms. Amy Sandgren Plaster, Chair
Mr. Steve Larkin, Vice Chair
Mr. Laricke Blanchard
Mr. Steven Bloch
Mr. Steven Bosacker
Ms. Tami Buckner
Ms. Nancy Hammer
Ms. Domenika Lynch
Ms. Patricia McGinnis
Mr. Jerry Prout
Mr. David Whitestone
Ms. Marcela Urrutia Zamora