



AMERICAN FEDERATION OF THE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED, Inc.

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AFFILIATES: AFPH EDUCATIONAL FUND, AFPH INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN ENGINEERING

(Contributions to affiliates are tax-deductible)

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November 27, 1956

To all National and International Unions
State Federations and Councils, and
City Bodies, AFL-CIO

Dear Sirs and Brothers:

I have just returned to duty, after a three-month severe illness, culminating in an operation. God, and three docs, pulled me through, and now I am ready to battle for the Handicapped again.

But, when I returned to AFPH, this past week, I found a financial situation which is best described by saying, "After November 30, we'll be broke!" Since I was ill and out of commission, I did not contribute to this condition, and since, as President, it is my responsibility to try to remedy it, I am calling upon all friends of the Handicapped to lend a hand.

The incoming Congress will require, as you well know, very strenuous efforts on our part, and that of Labor, if progressive programs are to be advanced, and I must, in the relatively short time between now and January 8, draft, present to Labor associates for revision and approval, our forthcoming program for 1957-1958.

We urgently need \$25,000, right now, to see us through November, December, and January, with the extra expense of printing, clerical and postage work entailed by legislation, and, as AFL-CIO Conventions, in December, 1955, endorsed this Organization and its Program, and pledged that it would assist, if possible, to raise \$150,000 to aid, today, I must ask each Union to do what may be possible, now, to get us over the rough spots.

I do not need to say that I am highly appreciative of the support, financially and legislatively, to say nothing of the personal friendships I have had, from many of you. I hope all of you will say, "Paul keeps his word, and never lets up on fighting for his program!"

But, higher costs of operation hits AFPH, too, and, as our people - the Handicapped - as a class, are poor, we find it difficult to conduct the activities of this Federation on \$5 a year dues, and I do not know of any Labor Organization running on such basis. If we do not receive substantial contributions from outside, we are sunk. Further, cost of office operation - rent, phones, clerical work, printing, etc., have shared in the

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general rising costs, with the result that we cannot function properly on the small sums we have had, and we must expand both our efforts, and our income, simultaneously, soon, if we are to survive, at all.

I believe you will join me in feeling that if AFPH has been responsible for nearly a BILLION DOLLARS worth of benefits to the Handicapped - of whom there are more than 40,000,000, many of whom are members, or families of members of Unions -- that we have done a good job and are worthy of your support and confidence.

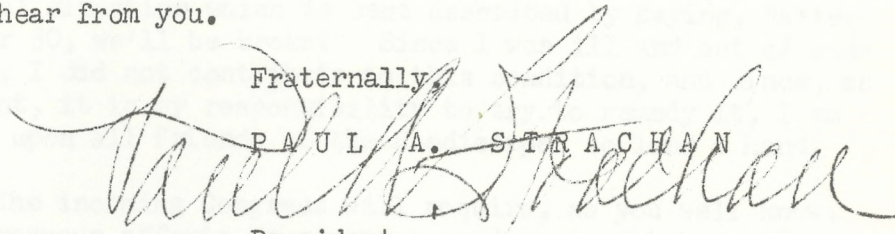
I ask, therefore, if possible, that your Unions make as substantial a contribution to AFPH, as may be possible, now, so we ~~may~~ not falter, (through no fault of ours) in advancing this great humanitarian and economic program. I will appreciate your help.

Please let me hear from you.

Fraternally,

PAUL A. STRACHAN

President

A large, cursive handwritten signature of Paul A. Strachan, written in dark ink, overlapping the typed name and title.