

Welcome

A Joint Letter from the Chairman and the President



The Partnership for Public Service is the nation's leading nonprofit, nonpartisan organization working to make our federal government more effective. There are 1.6 million nonprofits in the U.S. focused on all kinds of important issues, from the environment to poverty to national security. At the end of the day, however, there is only one tool for collective action to address our nation's most critical problems that also has the weight of public support and taxpayer resources behind it: the federal government. While nonprofits and others that seek environmental, economic or social change rightly advocate for policies they want, we also need a government that's effective at actually delivering results for the public.

Most importantly, our work has impact. Federal leaders who participate in our [leadership development programs](#) report being more effective in their jobs. Agencies and departments that have partnered with us report that their employees are more engaged and informed. Our recommendations have informed improvements in government operations such as federal recruitment and hiring, the [president's management agenda](#) and the [presidential transition](#). Our steady drumbeat on the transition and the [political appointments](#) process has caught the attention of the national media and created an entirely new focus on these issues.

In this moment, however, the political polarization that dominates Washington threatens to undermine these achievements. Civil servants are being attacked from all sides, demoralizing the workforce and further eroding public trust in our federal institutions.

What can any one person do to turn the tide? In our view, there has never been a more important time for individuals and institutions that care about the integrity of our government to get involved. The mission of our federal agencies is not the sole purview of any one president or political party, and much of the important work of our federal civil servants transcends the politics of the moment.

At the Partnership, we are encouraging the administration and Congress to do right when it comes to our government, and we are holding them accountable when they fall short, as we have throughout our history. Through programs such as the [Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medals](#), we are recognizing the very best of government, the individuals whose ingenuity and innovation are making a difference every day. We are bringing people together for the kinds of constructive conversations that are too rare in Washington these days: dialogue across and between agencies, between political appointees and their senior career executives, and between Congress and the agencies they oversee. And we are promoting the honor and integrity of a career in serving the public.

In the following report, we share our current strategies to achieve a more effective government and highlight our accomplishments around each of them over the past year. This year we are undertaking a strategic planning process to help us address the areas of greatest opportunity and investment for the Partnership in the coming three years and beyond. History shows that our government will move beyond this moment, and with a steady focus on what works, we can continue to help position our federal institutions and workforce for success.

Our achievements would not have been possible without the generous support of our donors and partners. In partnership with those who believe in the ability to change our federal institutions for the better, we look forward to a bright future for our organization and our government.

Very best regards,



Max Stier
President and CEO



Tom A. Bernstein
Chairman



Max Stier
President and CEO



Tom A. Bernstein
Chairman