

April 16, 2015

Jane Elfers, CEO
The Children's Place
500 Plaza Drive
Secaucus, NJ 07094

Dear Ms. Elfers,

As parents, teachers, and organizations that are committed to children, we write to urge you to pay full and fair compensation to the survivors who incurred injuries and the families of the workers who lost their lives in the Rana Plaza building collapse on April 24, 2013. In particular, we are asking you to help ensure that those children who lost parents and siblings in the disaster are not left without the means to basic nutrition and education.

The stories from Rana Plaza are so absolutely horrendous that it is hard to know how to talk about the tragedy to the children in our lives, many of whom wear The Children's Place clothing. The garment workers at Rana Plaza were aware the factory was unsafe, but were told their monthly wages would be withheld if they did not enter the building. Some were physically forced inside that morning. The result was 1,138 preventable deaths, 2,500 injured workers, 200 orphaned children, and hundreds more left destitute with permanently disabled and severely traumatized parents. The workers – many of them teenagers – were trapped for days under the collapsed building as the rescue effort continued. Many survivors had to have their legs or arms amputated on-site in order to free them from the rubble.

The tragedy has only continued: survivors and family members of victims have faced a myriad of struggles as a result of the lack of compensation, including homelessness and the inability to put adequate food on the table for their families.

As the largest pure-play children's specialty apparel retailer in the United States, we would hope that you would take a particular interest in supporting the families and children who have been put at risk by this tragedy. We are asking you to please think about the children, many of whom have had to leave school and begin working because they lost a parent or their parent is permanently disabled and their families now risk starvation.

We understand it can be hard to know how to respond to a tragedy on such a scale, but we hope that if you look at the continued suffering of these children, you'll understand

that as a leading children's brand, The Children's Place needs to not only make a much more substantial contribution to the compensation fund, but to take a leadership role in ensuring the compensation fund is made complete.

Not only do import records show that The Children's Place was the second largest producer in the factory around the time that Rana Plaza collapsed, but your long delay in making a substantial contribution has only added to the stress and destitution of the families affected.

Given The Children's Place's \$110 million in company net profits and \$152 million in shareholder pay-outs during the past two years, we know that you have the ability to contribute significantly more than the \$450,000 given thus far.

Please help end the continued suffering of these workers and their children: pay the remaining \$8.5 million to make the Rana Plaza Donors Trust Fund complete so that at least the minimal payments agreed upon with the UN's International Labour Organization can be made. Please do this before April 24, 2015, the two-year anniversary of the horrible building collapse.

We encourage you to do right by the workers who produced The Children's Place's clothes so that those directly affected by the Rana Plaza tragedy will at least have some minimum financial security as they strive to cope with the severe trauma of the tragedy.

Sincerely,

Loretta Johnson
Secretary Treasurer
American Federation of Teachers

Sally Greenberg
Executive Director
National Consumers League

Debra Ness
Executive Director
National Partnership for Women and
Families

Mark Harrison
Director of the Peace with Justice Program
United Methodist Church
General Board of Church and Society

Linda Valentine
Executive Director
Presbyterian Church USA

Sara Ziff
Executive Director
Model Alliance

Reid Maki
Coordinator
Child Labor Coalition

Harriett Jane Olson
General Secretary and CEO
United Methodist Women

Deborah Menkart
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Nancy Adler, Ph.D.*
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Rita Freedman
Acting Executive Director
The Jewish Labor Committee.

Sara Niccoli
Executive Director
Labor-Religion Coalition of NY State

Bill Bigelow
Curriculum Editor
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Christopher G. Kerr
Executive Director
Ignatian Solidarity Network

Robert M. Gould, MD
President
Physicians for Social Responsibility
San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

Leslie Gersicoff
Executive Director
Jewish Labor Committee Western Region

Marya Axner
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