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—Article Number:.....42884

Notes from editor (not for publication):

HEADLINE ELEMENTS:

####BEGIN HED####

1 One year after the end of U.S. foreign aid funding,
2 WWAC forum looks at what comes next

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4 TEXT BODY:

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5 One year ago, the Trump administration halted all
6 foreign aid and refugee resettlement and subsequently closed the
7 U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). Members of
8 the Windham World Affairs Council (WWAC) wrote in a news
9 release that halting donations from the world's biggest provider of
10 development aid was a shock to the international development

11 system and has had far-reaching ramifications in many countries
12 of the world.

13 At that time, WWAC convened a “Members + Friends
14 Salon” with local residents affected by these funding cuts.
15 WWAC revisits this salon to discuss what has transpired in the
16 year since, with a panel of former USAID staff and experts in
17 international development, on Friday, Jan. 23, at 6:30 p.m. at 118
18 Elliot.

19 Michelle Barrett, deputy mission director of USAID’s
20 West Africa Regional Office until 2025, will share her experience
21 of the agency’s closure. Jim Levinson, who had a lengthy career
22 at USAID and other international agencies, will discuss the
23 impacts of USAID’s closure across the world. Siena Fleischer,
24 USAID career staff until 2025, will introduce new initiatives that
25 have arisen to pick up the pieces.

26 At 5:30 p.m, before the panel, there will be a social hour
27 with former USAID and State staff, grantees, and contractors. The
28 time is envisioned as a space where those directly affected by
29 these changes can network, problem-solve, and think outside of
30 the box. Refreshments will be served.

31 The event is free with donations of \$10 gratefully
32 accepted. Register at [USAID.eventbrite.com](https://www.usaid.gov/eventbrite) to attend live. To
33 attend via Zoom, register at tinyurl.com/WWAC-USAID.

34 For further information about future events, or if you
35 would like to consider joining the WWAC board, visit
36 windhamworldaffairscouncil.org.

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BIO/COATTAIL:

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LAST ISSUE IN WHICH THIS FILE CAN BE RUN:

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####BEGIN MAXISSUE####

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LINKS:

39

####BEGIN LINKS####

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VIDEO:

40

####BEGIN VIDEO####

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LOGLINE (SOCIAL MEDIA):

41

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