

<https://www.kunr.org/post/postal-service-brink-rural-areas-have-most-lose#stream/0>

The U.S. Postal Service is in trouble. It was already [losing billions of dollars every year](#). Then COVID-19 happened.

The pandemic has people sending less mail, and that means reduced revenue for the USPS. But Ronnie Stutts, president of the National Rural Letter Carriers Association, said there's more to the Postal Service's bottom line.

"We never were put in to make money," Stutts said. "We were to give service to the people."

Stutts pointed out that private companies, like FedEx and UPS, don't go to every household in rural areas. Plus, he said the Postal Service does more than just deliver packages.

"Rural letter carriers have noticed that people's mail has started stacking up in their boxes and other things happening," he said. "And we have what we call heroes – we go in and find somebody whose fallen, the elderly have become ill, and we're just kind of like a neighborhood watch."

For the Postal Service to continue serving these communities, Stutts said, it desperately needs coronavirus stimulus money. As *The Washington Post* has [reported](#), that's something President Trump opposes.

If that's the case, Stutts said one of the nation's longest-running institutions could be on its last legs.

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