



NATIONAL FOSTER YOUTH INSTITUTE

July 15, 2021

The Honorable Karen Bass  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Don Bacon  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Brenda Lawrence  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jim Langevin  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Markwayne Mullin  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Co-Chairs of the Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth,

On Sunday, December 27, 2020, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 was signed into law. The unanimous vote in Congress was a clear demonstration that national leaders were making a commitment to the hundreds of millions of people who would benefit from the various economic relief programs that addressed hardships caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

The National Foster Youth Institute applauded the benefits included in the legislation, specifically supporting the major investment made to constituents of the child welfare system through the Supporting Foster Youth and Families through the Pandemic Act. This legislation was the culmination of discussions with members of Congress through NFYI sponsored Town Halls that brought together current and former foster youth with decision makers to discuss the negative impacts the pandemic was having on the child welfare system.

The expanded benefits, including \$400 million dollars in CHAFEE funds to provide states with resources to support transition age youth with financial, housing, employment, and other assistance, is set to expire this September without your help. With just a few weeks to go, more than half the states have yet to get these funds out the door and into the pockets of constituents of the child welfare system. This is why the National Foster Youth Institute is encouraging you to introduce legislation that will postpone the September appropriations deadline.

With the delta variant on the rise, failure to act will result in thousands of foster youth unable to access funds intended to help them during a global pandemic. This in turn will render your extraordinary investment moot, erasing the momentous recovery from the negative impacts associated with COVID-19.

In Solidarity,

Rebecca Louve Yao,  
Executive Director



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Additional 2020 NFYI Congressional Town Hall Guests - cc:

- The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
- The Honorable Danny K. Davis
- The Honorable Jackie Walorski
- The Honorable Judy Chu
- The Honorable Bonnie Watson Coleman
- The Honorable Gwen Moore
- The Honorable Kim Schrier
- The Honorable Dan Kildee
- The Honorable Tony Cardenas
- The Honorable Mary Gay Scanlon
- The Honorable Chuck Grassley

Partners





NATIONAL FOSTER YOUTH INSTITUTE

Bayard Rustin Liberation Initiative  
Angelic troublemaking for justice



foster  
advocates



agingUP  
youth mentoring program



Individuals

Patricia A Cody, PhD  
Rachel Roberts  
Melanie Goodman

Larae Jackson  
Nicole Cadena  
Jarel Melendez

Michael Darajorn  
Lovina Okoronkwo  
Pauline Hill



## NATIONAL FOSTER YOUTH INSTITUTE

Pamela Dorsey  
Anna Johnson  
Deb Kelleher  
Alicia McIntire  
Amy Weaver  
Joanna McCaffery  
Christina Anaya  
Brenda Gerhardt  
Leigh Quijada  
Paulina Lee  
Yocelyn Ramirez-Pena  
Cyrus Martinez  
Tianni Pitts  
Monica Romero  
Victoria Steward  
Tony Parsons  
Elizabeth Wells  
Angelique Day  
Justin Davis  
Crystal Hernandez  
Anna Judson  
Trenae Ka  
Kevin (Drake) Lynn  
Jennifer Martinez  
Raven Profit  
Tina Harris  
Aliyah Zeien  
TKeyah Dupclay  
Alisiana Medina  
Jamia Sutton  
Prestina Singleton  
Myja Darby  
Derrick Young  
Maya Wilson  
Serena Aguilar  
Diamonds Troupe  
Jade Phillips  
Luiz Gomez  
Freedom Lufkins  
Jamie Bennett  
Selena Bermejo Romero  
Stacia Parker

Caitlyn Shumaker  
Kayla Townsend  
Cory Seller  
Nicholas Olivares  
Dejwaun Armstrong  
Kyle Craig  
Alyssa Hill  
Maurisa Clark  
Victoria Davis  
Arieana Howard  
Brianna Sarmiento  
Jaquel Pitts  
Shelby Matthis  
Jaqueline Leonard  
Teresa Morales  
Mechelle Shaw  
Quanisha Jackson  
Samaya Ochoa  
Joanna Heretick  
Ashley Cabrera  
Susan Mangold  
Sophia Broudy  
Sheena Taylor-Watford  
Ada Smith  
Michelle Henderson  
Cathy Moffa  
Amy Brady  
Jennifer Nieves  
John Gyourko  
Rosie McNamara-Jones  
Dianne Mack  
Susan Punnett  
Jeanette Rosenau  
Me Carmelita Coleman  
Nichol Flowers  
Daniel Villarreal  
Élane Jones  
Toni Duncan  
Cindy Tong  
Roberta Garcia  
David Oyola  
Elijah Edwards

Charissa Kennedy  
Kehiana London  
Emilio Hernandez  
Drew Cohen  
Charisma Canty  
Tige Charity  
Nancy Konjo  
Stephanie Grijalva  
Megan Hobza  
Heaven  
Shaman-Page  
Stacey Gonzalez  
Dante Hills  
Adrienne Colegrove-  
Raymond  
Aubrey Edwards-Luce  
Jordan Sosa  
Rachelle Bickel-Trent  
Ryan Young  
Molly Hale  
Lynne Litchfield  
Beatriz Molina  
Allyson Olivas  
Nita Schimmel  
Cecilia Veyna  
Carlos Cervantes jr  
Elijah Owens  
Tori Veach  
Audris Mays  
Raven Bonaventure  
Sarah Fay  
Yency Gonzalez  
Maura McInerney  
Kristiana Jeffers  
Nancy Gonzalez  
Dakotah Lund  
Ashley Morales Cervantes  
Diamond Jones  
Brenda Perez  
Tasha Snowden  
Ivory Tifa  
Darlene Allen



## NATIONAL FOSTER YOUTH INSTITUTE

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Steven Youngblood  
Romeo Ayala  
Dionna Menchaca  
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Dominic Gillett  
Jose Soto  
Rev. Jason Carson Wilson  
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DeRahn Johnson  
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Destiny Santiago  
Rosalinda Espinoza  
Cherie Watlington  
Dejuna Rodriguez  
Torrin Todd  
Autumn Barrington  
Shanna Simons  
Mykayla Crosby  
Destiny Benitez  
Andrea C.  
Jashanpreet Batth

Last Updated: Aug 23, 2021