



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 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





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Individuals

Patricia A Cody, PhD	Kevin (Drake) Lynn	Shelby Matthis
Rachel Roberts	Jennifer Martinez	Jaqueline Leonard
Melanie Goodman	Raven Profit	Teresa Morales
Larae Jackson	Tina Harris	Mechelle Shaw
Nicole Cadena	Aliyah Zeien	Quanisha Jackson
Jarel Melendez	TKeyah Dupclay	Samaya Ochoa
Michael Darajorn	Alisiana Medina	Joanna Heretick
Lovina Okoronkwo	Jamia Sutton	Ashley Cabrera
Pauline Hill	Prestina Singleton	Susan Mangold
Pamela Dorsey	Myja Darby	Sophia Broudy
Anna Johnson	Derrick Young	Sheena Taylor-Watford
Deb Kelleher	Maya Wilson	Ada Smith
Alicia McIntire	Serena Aguilar	Michelle Henderson
Amy Weaver	Diamonds Troupe	Cathy Moffa
Joanna McCaffery	Jade Phillips	Amy Brady
Christina Anaya	Luiz Gomez	Jennifer Nieves
Tiara Racine	Freedom Lufkins	John Gyourko
Brenda Gerhardt	Jamie Bennett	Rosie McNamara-Jones
Leigh Quijada	Selena Bermejo Romero	Dianne Mack
PaulinaLee	Stacia Parker	Susan Punnett
Yocelyn Ramirez-Pena	Caitlyn Shumaker	Jeanette Rosenau
Cyrus Martinez	Kayla Townsend	Me Carmelita Coleman
Tianni Pitts	Cory Seller	Nichol Flowers
Monica Romero	Nicholas Olivares	Daniel Villarreal
Victoria Steward	Dejwaun Armstrong	Élane Jones
Tony Parsons	Kyle Craig	Toni Duncan
ELizabeth Wells	Alyssa Hill	Cindy Tong
Angelique Day	Maurisa Clark	Roberta Garcia
Justin Davis	Victoria Davis	Denise Daugherty
Crystal Hernandez	Arieana Howard	David Oyola
Anna Judson	Brianna Sarmiento	Elijah Edwards
Trenae Ka	Jaquel Pitts	