



July 28, 2021

Dear faithful advocates,

As we consider the groundbreaking difference that the Child Tax Credit (CTC) will make for our country's most vulnerable families, we ask that you consider doing the following:

- 1. Make information about the CTC known to people who qualify but may not have begun receiving their refund.**
- 2. Advocate for an extension of the Child Tax Credit beyond 2021 as part of your August action when Congress is back in district.**



Some of you with children under 18 may have already received your first Child Tax Credit check or bank deposit for 2021. However, people who have not filed for taxes because of their income level, and have not filed for a stimulus check, do not automatically receive the funding. The 2021 Child Tax Credit expands full benefits to families who were previously left out or only received partial benefits, but families must apply to receive benefits.

Please consider posting the below document and/or using it as a handout at food pantries and other locations where you think it would be useful.

[CTC 8.5 x 11 poster & handout in English](#)
(Version in Spanish coming soon)



Contact your U.S. Senators and your U.S. Representative during their August Recess! Call, organize a Zoom meeting, have an in-person meeting, or attend a town hall meeting. Don't be shy about calling to ask questions and/or learn about town hall meetings. Please be cognizant of safety during COVID. Here are our U.S. Senators' websites and the site for finding your U.S. Representatives:

www.baldwin.senate.gov

www.ronjohnson.senate.gov

www.house.gov/representatives (Simply plug in your Zip Code to find your Representative and website)

[August Recess Guide](#) (from our D.C. office)

Next week, we will also send you information about advocating on federal efforts to expand Medicaid. To assist you in advocating on the Child Tax Credit, please read the information below.



The Expanded Child Tax Credit Helps Children

- The Child Tax Credit expansion is predicted to reduce child poverty by 30 - 50% in the United States. Our country has never had a fall in child poverty that is greater than 10% in a single year.
- This expanded credit has a particular benefit to children of color. This expanded credit is predicted to cut childhood poverty for Black children by 52%.

Additionally, this expanded tax credit will lift 1.7 million Latinx children out of poverty, and 4 million Latinx children will be brought closer to being out of poverty.

- About 35 - 40 million households will receive the CTC benefit, which will directly help about 65 million kids. In **Wisconsin**, an estimated 1.2 million children—92%—will be impacted by the tax credit and 46,000 will be lifted out of poverty.
- As opposed to the previous Child Tax Credit, this expanded CTC is refundable, which means that every child in poverty can receive the full amount, no matter their household income.

Advocacy Asks

- We support this expanded Child Tax Credit in its entirety and would like Congress to permanently reduce childhood poverty by extending this new Child Tax Credit indefinitely.
- We support continuing to make this tax credit fully refundable to help children who experience deep poverty.
- We support the current CTC expansion's accessibility, including to children who come from mixed-status families and children who are 17 years of age. We also support the infrastructure that reduces barriers to filing and receiving CTC payments. We encourage Congress to make permanent these policies and practices that make benefits readily available to as many low income children as possible.
- We support permanently increasing the tax credit amount from \$2,000 per child to \$3,600 per child under the age of 6 and \$3,000 per child from aged 6 -17.

Policy Changes to the Child Tax Credit

- Increases the credit from \$2,000 per child to \$3,600 for children under 6 and \$3,000 for children between the ages of 6-17.
 - o Children aged 17 are now eligible for the CTC for the first time.
 - o The expanded credit is fully refundable, meaning they are not tied to a family's tax liability. This means families who owe little to no taxes can still be eligible for the full refund.
- Mixed status families are eligible for the CTC as long as the children have a Social Security Number! If a parent or caregiver is undocumented, they will need an ITIN number to claim the benefits on behalf of their children.
 - o Claiming the CTC will not affect anyone's immigration status.
- The first half of the CTC payment will now be disbursed automatically in monthly installments until 2022, while the second half will be given in one lump sum after next year's tax deadline.

Resources for the above CTC talking points:

[Center for American Progress](#)

[Center on Budget and Policy Priorities](#)

[The White House](#)

Find additional Resources, including sites with statistics, on our [Hunger Page](#).

Thank you for taking time with us!

God's blessings,

Team LOPPW