

July 2021

The logo for RESULTS, featuring the word "results" in white lowercase letters on a red speech bubble background.

## U.S. Poverty Monthly Action

### Use media to push for a strong economic recovery focused on reducing poverty

The summer and fall are gearing up to be a busy time in Washington. In late June, senators from both parties reached a tentative agreement on “traditional infrastructure”. President Biden announced his support but is also pushing Congress to pass a “human infrastructure” recovery plan along with it. This latter plan is our is where policies around housing and child poverty would be included.

House and Senate leaders are currently working to draft legislation on both plans. Therefore, the time to influence what will be included in the recovery package is now. Your letters to the editor calling for a multi-year investment in Housing Choice Vouchers could mean the difference between millions of Americans getting stably housed and not. Your letters highlighting the new Child Tax Credit monthly allowance and urging Congress to make the new CTC and EITC provisions permanent could lead to permanently cutting child poverty in half.

Submit your letters to the editor today. Use the sample letters below (or [templates on our website](#)) to personalize and submit your own calling for bold action on housing and tax policies. Use local stories about infrastructure, recovery negotiations, housing, or poverty as hooks for your letters. For media tips, see our [Media Basics](#) and once published, [leverage your media](#) by forwarding it to your members of Congress.

### Template LTE: New CTC is a game-changer

The new Child Tax credit monthly payments have started. Most families will now get an extra \$250-300 from the IRS each month to help with rent, food, childcare, and medical costs. If you did not receive a payment, go to [www.childtaxcredit.gov](http://www.childtaxcredit.gov) to see if you qualify.

This new CTC is a game-changer, potentially cutting child poverty by almost half over the next year. But the CTC improvements, along with much-needed changes to the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) for low-wage workers, will expire after a year. We cannot lift millions of American workers and children out of poverty only to force them back into poverty a year later. Congress must make these provisions permanent.

July 2021

The logo for RESULTS, featuring the word "results" in white lowercase letters on a red speech bubble background.

## U.S. Poverty Monthly Action

We cannot let workers and families down. I urge our members of Congress to make the 2021 CTC and EITC changes permanent in recovery legislation this year - and pay for it by making the rich and corporations pay their fair share.

### Template LTE: Invest in Housing Choice Vouchers

With the CDC's national eviction moratorium expiring at the end of July, Congress needs to act now to avoid a wave of evictions in the coming months.

The Housing Choice Voucher program is our nation's largest and most effective housing program. But only one in four renters can get a voucher because of inadequate funding. If we expand vouchers to all eligible renters and guarantee funding for the program each year, we could virtually end homelessness, reduce racial inequality, and save lives. And we can pay for it by making the wealthy and corporations pay their fair share of taxes.

America has been in a housing crisis for years; the pandemic only made it more conspicuous. Along with investing in building new housing, I urge our senators and representatives to expand rental assistance to all eligible renters through multi-year guaranteed funding for Housing Choice Vouchers.

#### Resources:

- RESULTS Blog Post on housing and poverty: <https://results.org/blog/recovery-must-focus-on-reducing-poverty-and-systemic-inequities/>
- RESULTS Blog Post on CTC and EITC: <https://results.org/blog/will-congress-let-child-poverty-double-next-year-our-work-on-tax-policy-in-2021/>
- CTC and EITC data by state (CBPP): <https://www.cbpp.org/research/federal-tax/american-rescue-plan-act-includes-critical-expansions-of-child-tax-credit-and>
- Housing data by state (NLIHC): <https://nlihc.org/housing-needs-by-state> and <https://nlihc.org/coronavirus-and-housing-homelessness/eviction-update>