



results

US Poverty Policy Forum

September 21, 2022

Making the Conservative Case for the CTC

Welcome and Icebreaker

The logo for 'results' is a red speech bubble shape with the word 'results' written in white lowercase letters inside.

Thank You for Joining us Tonight!



Please share in the chat:

Your name

Where you are joining from tonight

**One argument against expanding the CTC
that you have heard**

Our Anti-Oppression Values

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

RESULTS is a movement of passionate, committed everyday people. Together we use our voices to influence political decisions that will bring an end to poverty. Poverty cannot end as long as oppression exists. We commit to opposing all forms of oppression, including ableism, ageism, biphobia, classism, colonialism, homophobia, racism, religious discrimination, sexism, transphobia, white saviorism, and xenophobia.

At RESULTS we pledge to create space for all voices, including those of us who are currently experiencing poverty. We will address oppressive behavior in our interactions, families, communities, work, and world. Our strength is rooted in our diversity of experiences, not in our assumptions.

With unearned privilege comes the responsibility to act so the burden to educate and change doesn't fall solely on those experiencing oppression. When we miss the mark on our values, we will acknowledge our mistake, seek forgiveness, learn, and work together as a community to pursue equity.

There are no saviors — only partners, advocates, and allies. We agree to help make the RESULTS movement a respectful, inclusive space.

Find all our anti-oppression resources at <https://results.org/volunteers/anti-oppression/>

Latest from Capitol Hill

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- Expanded CTC was not included in [reconciliation](#) (Inflation Reduction Act)
- Best chance for legislation expanding the CTC in 2022 will be in a bipartisan end of year tax package
- Influence ongoing conversations now – will need broad bipartisan support for final negotiations
- Strategy is to use corporate tax breaks (R&D etc) as leverage to get CTC



Congressional Champions in the News

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Sens. Brown, Booker, Bennet and Reps. DelBene, DeLauro, and Torres release statement on heels of Census Poverty Data

- *“Today’s Census data confirms that the expanded Child Tax Credit worked: it allowed the hard work of tens of millions of parents to pay off and helped them keep up with the cost of living, dramatically reducing child poverty and hunger. We should have never allowed this critical program to lapse, and we should not extend corporate tax breaks at the end of this year without also extending the expanded Child Tax Credit.”*

Sen. Sherrod Brown on Washington Post Live



Making the Conservative Case for the CTC

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Three key things to do to connect with your Conservative MOC

- **Find shared sources**
- **Find shared values**
- **Find shared goals**

Link to Blog: <https://results.org/blog/making-the-conservative-case-for-the-ctc>

Making the Conservative Case for the CTC

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- **Finding Shared Sources**

- We need to have a shared set of facts to begin discussion
- Some Conservative/Nonpartisan sources to consider:
 - *Niskanen Center*
 - *American Enterprise Institute*
 - *National Bureau of Economic Research*
 - *Congressional Republican's Statements*
 - *Government Data (Census, CBO)*

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- **Finding Shared Values**

- Consider workshops on Motivational Interviewing where we have discussed finding shared values. [Link to past Motivational Interviewing training](#)
- Some values you may share with conservatives:
 - *Bipartisanship*
 - *Family Stability & Self-Sufficiency*
 - *Parental Freedom*
 - *Economic Growth (especially locally)*

Making the Conservative Case for the CTC

- **Finding Shared Goals**

- This is the biggest challenge
- **Objective:** align on shared goal to expand the CTC (even if it is “reluctant acceptance”)
- Put it all together in one clear compelling case – tailored elevator speech
- Must be ready for pushback

Making the Conservative Case for the CTC

- **Common Arguments against CTC Expansion from Lobby Reports**
 - Costs too much/Increases Inflation
 - Disincentivizes work
 - Not the place of government to promote the general welfare of the people
 - Partisanship

Common Arguments against CTC Expansion

- **Costs too much/Increases Inflation**
 - Corporate tax breaks also have high costs, if we can afford those, we can afford CTC
 - Janet Yellen told Sen. Brown inflation “has utterly nothing to do with the CTC”
 - [Former Treasury Secretaries Robert Rubin and Jack Lew OpEd supporting CTC](#)

Common Arguments against CTC Expansion

Disincentivizes work

- [Univ. of Chicago Study rebuttal by Niskanen Center](#)
- Real world evidence by [Tax Policy Center](#) and [NBER](#)
- CTC helped people go to work i.e. childcare, transportation, stable housing
- [1.4 million left the workforce](#) when CTC ended
- [New Twitter thread from CBPP](#) showing no change in employment in 2021 from Census data
- Make the "moral argument" that the CTC is proven to reduce child poverty and should be expanded

Common Arguments against CTC Expansion

Not the place of government to promote the general welfare of the people

- CTC improves parental freedom by utilizing direct payments
- If government can provide corporate welfare, then it can provide for families as well
- Make the "moral argument" that the CTC is proven to reduce child poverty and should be expanded

Common Arguments against CTC Expansion

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- **Partisanship**

- Reinforce that CTC has bipartisan support
- Primarily an argument during reconciliation
- Ask them to reach out to make bipartisan expansion a reality
- Ask their thoughts on other conservative proposals – open-ended questions lead to discussion

Questions?

Let's Practice

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- Breakout Room Options
 - Practice elevator speech
 - Practice response to common responses
- When We Return
 - Share what you practiced/learned
 - Time for specific questions about your MOC



**Practice
Makes
Perfect**

RESULTS U.S. Poverty Key Action

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Tell Congress to **extend the Child Tax Credit (CTC)**

- Remind lawmakers that **families are struggling to make ends meet and facing higher costs** for rent, food, gas, etc
- Highlight that **the CTC strengthened families and helped them weather tough times**
- Urge them to **prioritize expanding the CTC in year-end legislation**, and that you oppose any more tax breaks for large corporations unless they include support for families. They should specifically voice that CTC is a priority to leadership.

RESULTS U.S. Poverty Key Action

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Follow up with tax aides, and write letters to Congress about the CTC using the [September U.S. Poverty Action](#).

Send feedback to dplasterer@results.org



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**Thank you for joining us tonight and for all you do
to better our world!**