

## Prioritize the Child Tax Credit in Reconciliation

**Engage:** In 2021, the expanded Child Tax Credit (or "CTC") helped millions of families pay the bills and cut child poverty nearly in half.

**Problem:** Now, as families are facing higher costs for rent, food, and fuel, the CTC monthly payments have ended – and Columbia University researchers found that there was a [41 percent increase in child poverty as monthly CTC payments stopped](#).

**Inform:** The 2021 CTC expansion is the most significant investment in reducing child poverty in a generation. After the monthly payments started in July 2021, nearly 4 million children were kept from poverty each month. Families used their CTC payments to buy food, pay rent, and cover utilities. [share your own experience and/or [state data](#) on the impact of expanding the CTC]. As inflation is creating greater hardship for families, Congress has rejected efforts to continue the monthly CTC payments .

**Call to Action:** Congress must extend the expanded CTC with monthly payments and permanent full refundability for all low-income families in a reconciliation package. Will you urge your Congressional colleagues and leadership to extend the expanded CTC, with permanent full refundability, in the upcoming reconciliation bill?

How may I follow up with you on this?

How can we support you in your efforts?

How can you keep us updated on your efforts to support the CTC?

### NOTES

## The Child Tax Credit Needs Broad Bipartisan Support

**Engage:** In 2021, the expanded Child Tax Credit (CTC) helped millions of American families weather tough economic times, while also cutting child poverty by 40 percent.

**Problem:** The expanded CTC is an effective and efficient way to strengthen families and reduce child poverty. Unfortunately, Columbia University researchers found that there was a [41 percent increase in child poverty as monthly CTC payments stopped](#). Now with inflation at historic highs, it is becoming harder for families to meet basic needs like rent and food, jeopardizing their family stability and ability to work.

**Inform:** The 2021 CTC expansion is the most pro-family policy in a generation. [Share your own experience and/or [state data](#) on the impact of expanding the CTC]. It helped families stay housed, eat healthier, and [stay employed](#). The CTC's impact goes even further. Society's return on investment is [\\$8 for every \\$1 spent on the CTC](#), as families spend their CTC payments locally, parents opt for more job training, and children do better in school.

**Call to Action:** Congress must find a long-term bipartisan solution to strengthen families and fight child poverty. Will you work with your congressional colleagues to expand the CTC to prioritize families with the lowest or no incomes in any tax legislation this year?

[For more talking points and background, see the last sections of [RESULTS CTC Background Memo](#).]

### NOTES