



Date: September 16, 2019
To: Michigan's Senate Delegation Legislative Directors
From: Matt Gillard, President & CEO
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Re: Michigan's Child and Family Programs and the Federal Budget

Knowing that you have spent quality time with your constituents over the past several weeks, and with the news of a budget deal between Congress and the President and with the Senate beginning its own appropriations process for FY20, I write on behalf of Michigan's children and families, whose interests are uniquely tied to the future of the federal budget. As we have written to your office before, a host of vital, effective Michigan programs and services for Michigan's children, youth, and families rely considerably on federal funds. We write to encourage you to urge your colleagues on the Senate Appropriations Committee to prioritize the House's proposed increased investments in:

- **Child Care.** The House increased CCDBG Funding by \$2.4 billion and Head Start by \$1.5 billion, both of which would expand access to child care for Michigan families.
- **Child Abuse Prevention.** The House provided \$35 million in new funds for Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention program grants, which will support Michigan's community-based child abuse and neglect prevention programs through the Children's Trust Fund.
- **Afterschool Programs.** The House increased funding for 21st Century Community Learning Centers by \$100 million, expanding learning opportunities for Michigan students.
- **Adult Education and Workforce Training.** The House increased WIOA funding by \$178 million, with a \$55 million increase for Adult Education and \$90 million for youth activities, in addition to increased funding for postsecondary access programs. These represent investments into both our current workforce and K-12 achievement by supporting parents to build their skills.
- **Substance Use Prevention.** The House increased substance use treatment programs and services funding by \$128.5 million in response to a continued substance use crisis.
- **K-12 Education.** The House budget includes increased funding for Title I schools, student support and academic enrichment, English language programs, community schools, and professional development.

The youth and families of Michigan rely upon these life-changing supports, and you can make sure these programs last for the long haul. We are thankful for your leadership, and we thank you for considering the best interests kids and families.