



May 8, 2020

Dear Rep. Tlaib:

Over the past several weeks, we, Michigan's Children, have relayed a wide range of information, policy recommendations and constituent feedback regarding issues impacting Michigan children, youth and families during this difficult time. We greatly appreciate your consideration. We have identified specific issues that reflect your positions, expertise, and communications we've had with your staff, and we would like to further discuss your willingness and ability to champion these priorities on behalf of our state's most vulnerable children, youth and families in future federal COVID response legislation:

**Improve access to WIC and WIC-allowable purchases**

Unlike SNAP benefits, pregnant women and families with young children cannot use their WIC for curbside pickup, online ordering, or delivery. They have to be present inside the building to use WIC benefits. Many WIC clinics are closed, and WIC limits families to certain brands of products that they may or may not be able to access in their own grocery stores.

**Expand Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) through the summer**

This program has successfully connected families with needed food support, and should not end at the end of the typical school year. Funding could be combined with other summer feeding programs that typically have low uptick and will have even less ability to provide food in the current crisis.

**Direct Financial Supports for State and Local Governments**

Michigan, like other states, is facing significant revenue challenges due to this crisis. Critical public services, and supports for those services that go to nonprofits and other agencies can't continue without strong state and local governments to support them.

Thank you for your service for the children, youth, and families of Michigan, we look forward to working together.

Regards,

Matt Gillard  
President & CEO

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