



September 27, 2021

Majority Leader Chuck Schumer
U.S. Senate
S-221, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Minority Leader Mitch McConnell
U.S. Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Speaker Nancy Pelosi
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515

Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy
U.S. House of Representatives
H-204, The Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Majority Leader Schumer, Minority Leader McConnell, Speaker Pelosi and Minority Leader McCarthy:

The Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) Financial Security and Poverty Task Force write to express our strong opposition to attaching work requirements as part of the effort to permanently expand the Child Tax Credit (CTC) in the reconciliation package being crafted. CCD is the largest coalition of national organizations working together to advocate for federal public policy that ensures the self-determination, independence, empowerment, integration, and inclusion of children and adults with disabilities in all aspects of society.

In the United States, [one in four adults have a disability](#), and [29 percent of the U.S. population provides care](#) for a person with a disability, a person with a chronic illness, or an elderly adult.^{1 2} Many of these caregivers are forced to take time off or leave their job entirely to provide care to their loved ones. Families that include a child with a disability or complex medical needs — especially single parent households — often face extreme difficulty in managing both work and caring for the needs of the child. These parents frequently come in and out of the workforce depending on the needs of the child at that time. It is very common for these parents to have to stop working for a period of time [to address a particular disability-related situation](#) or [in](#)

¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. 2021. Disability Impacts All of Us Infographic | CDC. [online] Available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/disabilityandhealth/infographic-disability-impacts-all.html>

²Caregiver Action Network. 2021. Caregiver Statistics. [online] Available at: <https://www.caregiveraction.org/resources/caregiver-statistics>

[response to an emergency situation.](#)^{3 4} Providing the payments monthly especially helps parents make ends meet month-to-month when they have financial emergencies like this.

As recent research has pointed out, parents of children with disabilities are not the only caregivers impacted—those caring for an older adult or a new child also face the same challenges.⁵ It is no surprise that research also indicates that CTC payments do not discourage work—families facing caregiving challenges are working to support their loved ones.⁶

The temporary expansion of the CTC under the American Rescue Plan (ARP) has already helped over 35 million families afford expenses such as bills, clothing, childcare, and food. Given the refundability in the [proposed](#) CTC expansions in the reconciliation package child poverty is [projected](#) to be cut in half, creating long-term economic benefits for children, families, and communities.^{7 8} This in effect would eliminate the minimum work requirements previously placed on the CTC. Failing to extend this provision permanently would deny this essential credit to caregivers who rely on it the most. Caregiving is work and families with disabilities should not face undue economic burdens or excessive administrative hurdles because of their caregiving responsibilities. Please contact anyone below with questions or to arrange a meeting.

Sincerely,

CCD Financial Security & Poverty Task Force Co-Chairs and Member:

Bethany Lilly, The Arc, lilly@thearc.org

Aaron Kaufman, The Jewish Federations of North America,
Aaron.Kaufman@jewishfederations.org

Cyrus Huncharek, National Disability Rights Network, cyrus.huncharek@ndrn.org

Heather Sachs, National Down Syndrome Congress, heather@ndscenter.org

³ Berns, P. and Ness, D., 2021. During a Crisis and Beyond, Congress Must Provide Paid Leave to Caregivers of People With Disabilities - The Arc. [online] The Arc. Available at: <https://thearc.org/blog/during-a-crisis-and-beyond-congress-must-provide-paid-leave-to-caregivers-of-people-with-disabilities/>

⁴ The Arc. 2021. How a Hospital Stay Without Paid Leave Forced One Family Into a Crisis. [online] Available at: <https://thearc.org/blog/surviving-on-gofundme-paid-leave-crisis/>

⁵ Parker, K. and Patten, E., 2021. The Sandwich Generation, Rising Financial Burdens for Middle-Aged Americans Pew Research Center's Social & Demographic Trends Project. Available at: <https://www.pewresearch.org/social-trends/2013/01/30/the-sandwich-generation/>

⁶ Michael Baker, Derek Messacar, and Mark Stabile, "The Effects of Child Tax Benefits on Poverty and Labor Supply: Evidence from the Canada Child Benefit and Universal Child Care Benefit," National Bureau of Economic Research Working Paper 28556, March 2021, <https://www.nber.org/papers/w28556>.

⁷ House Ways and Means Committee, Chairman Richard Neal, Budget Reconciliation Legislative Recommendations Relating to Infrastructure Financing, Green Energy, Social Safety Net, and Prescription Drugs.

⁸ Joint Economic Committee, Chairman Don Beyer, Expanded Child Tax Credit Will Inject More Than \$18.6 Billion Into Local Economies Each Month.

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CC:

Chairman Ron Wyden

Ranking Member Mike Crapo

Chairman Richard Neal

Ranking Member Kevin Brady