

# THE BFD REPORT



from Family Forward Action

Friend,

If you're like me, you are both eagerly anticipating school starting up and also nervous about what it all means right now, too. We've survived over a year of distance learning, child care closures or lack of child care options, and now we are staring down more uncertainty. For single moms, caregivers who identify as Black, Indigenous, Latinx and/or people of color, immunocompromised folks, and moms working low-wage jobs trying to make ends meet, this pandemic has exacerbated already large inequities. We are all *very ready* for change.

**That's why we're so relieved to see some progress and good news for families this month.**

This month Congress moved forward a \$3.5 trillion budget resolution that includes funds for paid leave, major investments in child care, an expanded child tax credit, and more. It won't bring immediate relief (we'll have to keep leaning on each other for that), but it will change the way that moms and caregivers are supported forever if passed. More on that and other reasons to have hope below!

## YOUR WINS

- A \$3.5 trillion dollar budget resolution that includes funding for paid leave, major investments in child care, an expanded child tax credit, a pathway to permanent citizenship for immigrants, and [SO MUCH MORE](#). You helped make this happen with your urgent emails to Congressman Kurt Schrader! More below.
- Family Forward Action Team Leader and super volunteer Magy Viveros was awarded the John Lewis Youth Leadership Award by Oregon's Secretary of State Shemia Fagan! [Hear why](#).

- You are surviving parenting and caregiving during a global pandemic. [Give yourself a break.](#)

# YOUR IMPACT

Parenting and caregiving during a pandemic is immensely hard work. **If you're hitting a wall, you're not alone.** As we continue to fight for the policy change we need right now (and needed pre-pandemic to avoid being in this situation), please make sure you [care for yourself, too.](#)

**We have been constantly in awe of this community in the last 18+ months.** The way you come together to support each other and fight the policies we all need is amazing. Some days some of us can do more, some days we can do less, but together, we are getting it done.

Last week, when we heard that Congressman Kurt Schrader (D-Oregon) and other federal lawmakers were trying to hold up progress on paid leave, child care, and dozens of other supports our families need, we sounded the alarm. And wow, did you show up!

Over 75 of you wrote passionate emails to Congressman Schrader, demanding that he stand down and show up for Oregon families. Dozens of you shared on social media, and many more of you left a simple like or comment to help boost our posts. All of it counted.

Because of your advocacy, Congressman Kurt Schrader and other lawmakers who were holding up progress changed their positions, and we now have a \$3.5T budget resolution moving forward that includes funding for paid leave, game-changing investments in child care, expanded child tax credits, and so much more.

**This is our power in action. When moms and caregivers come together, we can do anything.**

And...we're not done! While almost all of Oregon's Congressional delegation (except Rep. Cliff Bentz) moved this budget resolution forward, the components of this proposal are still being drafted—and the final vote to actually fund these programs hasn't happened yet. **We have an opportunity to make historic investments in things our families desperately need, right now. Let's get this done!**

This is a BFD.

Until next month,



Amy Hojnowski  
Development Director  
Family Forward Oregon & Family Forward Action

P.S. Have you been thinking about joining our [Give Forward](#) team as a monthly donor? Today is the LAST DAY to get a special bonus gift! If you sign up to give a monthly gift of \$10 or more, you'll get one of our "Caregiving is Essential" face masks! Give \$20 or more monthly, and you'll score our limited edition "Moms for Justice" tote bag.

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## Dance Like a Mother is postponed until May 14, 2022!

Due to the rise of the Delta variant, we have made the decision to postpone our annual in-person fundraiser from this October until May 14, 2022 (save the date!). We're excited to come together and celebrate moms and caregivers with you next year.



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