

For our newest members to The BFD Report, welcome! As a supporter you can expect this monthly newsletter highlighting the important work you helped make happen.

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THE BFD REPORT



from Family Forward Action

{{FirstName or 'Friend'}},

Care work is the work that makes all other work happen—because we care, everything is possible.

As mothers and caregivers, we've faced one crisis and challenge after another. The toll has been monumental—nearly 3 million women have had to drop out of the workforce and in Oregon there is an 18% gender gap in workforce participation between mothers and fathers. These disparities are felt most by women, mothers, and caregivers that identify as Black, Indigenous, Latinx, Pacific Islander, and/or people of color.

There has never been a more important time to fight for economic justice for ourselves and our families. And because we care, we're really doing it, even when the going gets tough. I'm continuously glad to do this work with each of you. I'm floored by what we've been able to accomplish this year, in spite of everything.

This last month was major proof of that. We're only celebrating ONE WIN this November, but it's such a big one...

YOUR WINS

BUILD BACK BETTER ACT PASSED THE U.S. HOUSE!!! Together we moved Congressman Kurt Schrader to vote YES and now the policies we need are moving forward. More below!

YOUR IMPACT

WE DID IT! The Build Back Better Act is officially on its way to the U.S. Senate and one step closer to being reality. And it's in large part thanks to YOU. When the bill passes the Senate, it will move to President Biden's desk to be signed and then, Oregon will see...

- A national paid family and medical leave program that will complement the statewide program we passed together in Oregon two years ago
- Free preschool for an additional 77,000 Oregonian kids!
- Affordable childcare for 220,000 kids (any family that makes less than a set percentage of the state median income - or less than \$223K a year as a family of 4 in 2022) (!!!)
- An extension of the Child Tax Credit (CTC) and an increase of \$300/month per child under 6 or \$250/month per child ages 6 to 17. This will continue the largest one-year reduction in child poverty in history (prior to this credit taking effect earlier this year, nearly 10% of Oregon kids lived in poverty).

- And more!

Moms and caregivers have been petitioning Oregon's Congressman Kurt Schrader for his support on this package since September. He and four other moderate Democrats held out on support until the very last minute—and **their votes were crucial because every single Republican voted no on the package.**

In the eleventh hour, after receiving thousands of voicemails, emails, letters, and social media messages, Congressman Schrader and the other Democratic holdouts said they would support the policy. So don't ever let anyone tell you that contacting your lawmaker doesn't work!

We have never been this close to having the support we need to continue doing our essential work as caregivers. A future where mothers and caregivers can care for a family *and* provide for one is within reach.

That's a BFD.

Until next month,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy Hojnowski". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Amy" being the most prominent.

Amy Hojnowski
Development Director
Family Forward Oregon & Family Forward Action

P.S. Keep an eye out for invitations to some special restorative events we have planned in December! Because we care, we'll be offering free, virtual events to help you rest and restore. Stay tuned!

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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