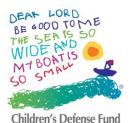
Children's Defense Fund 40+ Years of Vigilance



March 2018

Since 1973, the Children's Defense Fund has convened and participated in many coalitions and worked with numerous organizations, policymakers and community networks to help build bipartisan support in enacting laws and policies that have helped millions of children escape poverty and receive needed health care, nutrition, Head Start and Early Head Start, child care, education, special education, family support services, adoption assistance, protections for children in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems, and protection from gun violence. Children do not come in pieces and need a comprehensive quality continuum of care from birth to adulthood. Through careful research, public education, policy development, implementation and monitoring, and grassroots organizing we have tried to help build a national house, where every child is healthy, safe and educated, room by room.

Effects of Over 40 Years of Vigilance and Coalition Work

• 1974

Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act Buckley Amendment to Protect Privacy of School Records

- 1975
 Education for All Handicapped Children Act
- 1980
 Adoption Assistance and Child Welfare Act
- 1981

Expansion of Child Care Tax Credit

1982

Medicaid extends coverage to children with disabilities requiring institutional care but living at home

1984

Medicaid expansion requires coverage for all children under age five and first time pregnant women who meet Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) eligibility standards **Child Support Enforcement Amendments**

1985

Medicaid expansion reaches all pregnant women who meet AFDC eligibility standards

1986

Medicaid expansion gives states the option to cover pregnant women and young children in families with low income

Expansion of Earned Income Tax Credit
Foster Care Independent Living Program

1987

Medicaid expansion gives states the option to cover pregnant women and children under age one in families with incomes up to 185 percent of federal poverty level Expansion of **Earned Income Tax Credit**

• 1988

Medicaid expansion requires states to phase in coverage for all pregnant women and infants in families at or below 100 percent of federal poverty level

Family Support Act provides additional federal support for state education, training and employment efforts for AFDC families and guaranteed child care for participating parents

Expansion of *Fair Housing Act* prohibits discrimination against families with children and pregnant women

1989

Medicaid expansion requires coverage for pregnant women and children under age six in families with income at or below 133 percent of federal poverty level

Expansion of *Medicaid Early Periodic Screening Diagnostic and Treatment Program* covers additional diagnostic and treatment services for children

• 1990

Act for Better Child Care establishes the Child Care and Development Block Grant Medicaid expansion phases in coverage of children ages six through eighteen in families with incomes at or below 100 percent of federal poverty level

Expansion of Earned Income Tax Credit

Americans with Disabilities Act

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act strengthens and renames the Education for All Handicapped Children Act

• 1992

Children's Mental Health Services Program

Family Unification Program provides housing vouchers to help children return home or avoid placement in foster care

• 1993

Vaccines for Children Program
Expansion of Earned Income Tax Credit
Family Preservation and Support Services Program
Family and Medical Leave Act

• 1994

Reauthorizes and improves quality of *Head Start Child Welfare Demonstration Waiver Program*

• 1996

Strengthens Child Support Enforcement Programs with improved enforcement tools

• 1997

State Children's Health Insurance Program allows states to cover children in families with incomes below 200 percent of federal poverty level

Adoption and Safe Families Act

1998

Juvenile Justice and Delinguency Prevention Act adds protections for minority children

• 1999

Foster Care Independence Act

• 2001

Expands and makes *Child Tax Credit* partially refundable *Earned Income Tax Credit* becomes refundable *Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit* expands *Family Unification Program* expands to 18-year-olds aging out of foster care

• 2002

Food Stamp Reauthorization Act is strengthened for families

Promoting Safe and Stable Families Amendments provide education and training vouchers to youths aging out of foster care

Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act protects against confinement of juveniles with adults

2003

Adoption Promotion Act increases incentives for adoption of older children in foster care

• 2004

Strengthens Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

2006

Child and Family Services Improvement Act strengthens and targets funds for rehabilitation of methamphetamine and other drug abuse

2007

Head Start Program continues with quality improvements and **Early Head Start** expands **College Cost Reduction and Access Act** increases Pell Grants and redirects federal funds from student loan firms to aid to students and college graduates

• 2008

Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act Second Chance Act assists incarcerated juveniles and adults returning home Mental Health Parity eliminates discrimination in the treatment of children and adults

2009

Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Reauthorization Act

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act makes new investments in early childhood, education, nutrition, Medicaid, employment and training, and other programs and tax credits including earned income and child tax credits

• 2010

Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act covers 32 million uninsured Americans and 95 percent of all children with health coverage and includes the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program

Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act

• 2011

Child Welfare Services Improvement and Innovation Act

• 2013

Uninterrupted Scholars Act assists child welfare agencies to access educational records to promote educational stability and success for children in foster care

2014

Child Care and Development Block Grant Act reauthorizes child care subsidies for low-income working families and improves the health, safety and quality of child care

Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act promotes better outcomes for children in foster care and prevents them from being victims of sex trafficking

• 2015

Children's Health Insurance Program and Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program extended for two years

Earned Income Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit and American Opportunity Tax Credit improvements made permanent

Every Student Succeeds Act reauthorizes the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, with new protections for students in foster care and homeless students

2018

Family First Prevention Services Act helps keep children at imminent risk of foster care safely with their families and, if foster care becomes necessary, promotes the children's placement in family foster care or a qualified residential treatment program appropriate to their special needs Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) funding extended for 10 years Child Care and Development Block Grant funding increased by \$5.6 billion over two years to improve the quality of and access to child care

Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program funding extended for five years