

## *The Kid Angle*

*Kid-focused news from First Focus on Children*

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### **How many kids can \$42 billion help?**

**April 18, 2021**

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Dear Friends,

Happy Thursday. Here's a quick and dirty round up of stuff happening in kid-land to keep you ahead of the curve:

**Budget:** The discretionary program requests in President Biden's FY 2022 budget include significant increases for children's funding along with a nearly 16% increase (\$106 billion) in nondefense discretionary spending. Of the \$106 billion, the **First Focus budget team preliminarily estimates that about 40% (\$42 billion) will go toward programs that benefit kids.** (Big caveat: This is not an estimate of how much would go toward kids *qua* kids, but rather how much would go toward programs that benefit kids). Bottom line? We should see more money devoted to supporting children.

**Child Poverty:** More than [200 national and state organizations led by First Focus Campaign for Children](#) will urge the White House and Congress this week to build on the extraordinary child poverty-fighting measures in the latest COVID relief package by making them permanent. In particular, the request **will stress making permanent the expansion and strengthening of the Child Tax Credit**, which on its own will lift **nearly 4 million children out of poverty this year.** These structural changes are especially important for low-income families and will begin to address some of the racial inequities in our tax code.

**Immigration:** First Focus on Children this week led more than 30 child advocacy organizations to [call on the Biden Administration to immediately end the misuse of Title 42](#), the public health code being used to turn back asylum seekers at the U.S. border. Noting that the ongoing use of Title 42 "puts children in harm's way, inflicts trauma, and does not comport with the administration's commitment to racial equity," the group urged the administration to follow [recommendations](#) for the safe processing of asylum seekers laid out by leading public health experts.

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First Focus on Children

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