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Nearly 100,000 Granite State Families Will Be Impacted as \$300-Per Child Advanced Tax Credit Payments Stop Hitting Bank Accounts in January

BOW – NH: Since July 2021, 61 million children in the United States and hundreds of thousands of New Hampshire families have benefited considerably from a \$300-a-month, per child advanced tax credit. But with Congress unable to advance the Build Back Better plan in the Senate, payments will cease in January, leaving many families struggling to afford childcare, rent, and other household expenses.

The child tax credit was initially enacted in 1997, available only to middle-income parents who were actively working or looking for work. In 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act made groundbreaking changes to the child tax credit program, removing work-related conditions, increasing the amount of the credit, and expanding it to benefit most American low-income families, including those who have no earned income. The advanced nature of the reform allowed families to get the benefit of the credit on a monthly basis, rather than waiting until the filing of their annual income taxes.

However, those reforms were temporary, and have now expired.

Since the payments started hitting bank accounts six months ago, the expanded advanced tax credit has had enormous success reducing child poverty, financial hardship, and food insufficiency levels among low-income families with children. Without the credit in 2022, the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities estimates that 10 million children will fall into poverty or further into poverty; those who suffer the most will be the lowest-income households. In New Hampshire the impact will be felt by nearly 100,000 families.

For assistance with childcare, energy, food, housing, rent, and transportation costs, Granite Staters can contact their local [Community Action Program](#) resource center online or call 1-800-856-5525.

“For many Granite State families, the day-to-day impact of losing the monthly payments is heart-wrenching. These funds brought stability and breathing room for households who otherwise lived paycheck to paycheck and helped them pay for necessities like primary care, health insurance, healthy food, car maintenance, and childcare so that they could go to work,” said Tess Kuenning, President and CEO. “The pandemic has thrust extraordinary challenges on parents and caregivers, in particular for racial and ethnic minorities; and amidst a historic workforce, housing, and childcare shortage, these monthly payments were helping them stay afloat and thrive.”

Bi-State Primary Care Association (Bi-State) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, formed by two health and social service leaders in 1986 to expand access to health care in Vermont and New Hampshire. Today, Bi-State represents 29 member organizations across both states that provide comprehensive primary care services to over 300,000 patients at 142 locations. Our members include Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), clinics for the uninsured, rural health clinics, Area Health Education Center programs, and Planned Parenthood of Northern New England.