



**CONSORTIUM FOR CITIZENS  
WITH DISABILITIES**

March 26, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Majority Leader Schumer:

The undersigned members of the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) Financial Security and Poverty Taskforce write to thank you for many provisions in the recently passed American Rescue Plan, including the continuation of increased food assistance, stimulus checks for adult dependents, and improvements to tax credits for the lowest income people with disabilities. CCD is the largest coalition of national organizations working together to advocate for federal public policy that ensures the self-determination, independence, empowerment, integration and inclusion of children and adults with disabilities in all aspects of society. The COVID pandemic has devastated the disability community and this bill provided crucial investments to keep people safe during the next several months.

We are especially grateful that the 15% boost to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) has been extended through September, for the continuation of the Pandemic-EBT program, and for the \$25 million in technical assistance for the SNAP Online Purchasing Pilot Program. People with disabilities who participate in SNAP have utilized online ordering to remain safe during this pandemic and we look forward to working with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to ensure that more retailers are added to the online options so more people can safely use their SNAP benefits.

We are also grateful that adult dependents were included in the \$1,400 stimulus checks for the first time in a COVID-19 relief bill. People with disabilities and their families have taken extraordinary steps to isolate and protect themselves during this pandemic without any additional direct financial support for adult dependents. We also strongly support efforts to ensure that adult dependents are eligible for retroactive stimulus payments since they were excluded in previous relief packages. As with prior stimulus checks, we will continue to report challenges with the distribution of stimulus checks as we encounter them in order to ensure all eligible individuals receive this assistance.

Additionally, we are thankful for and strongly support the temporary improvements to the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and the Child Tax Credit (CTC). People with disabilities, especially Black, Indigenous and People of Color with disabilities, are disproportionately some of the lowest income earners in the country and these new provisions expand the amount of the credits and eligibility which will provide more relief to a larger number of people. We have worked to ensure that all people have access to their stimulus checks and know that similar outreach efforts will be crucial to fully realizing the anti-poverty impacts of these EITC and CTC improvements and we stand ready to work with you to ensure that this outreach includes people with disabilities.

Again, we thank you for the many beneficial provisions in the recently passed American Rescue Plan which will benefit people with disabilities. We look forward to continuing our work together as the pandemic runs its course. Please do not hesitate to contact Bethany Lilly ([lilly@TheArc.org](mailto:lilly@TheArc.org)) or Cyrus Huncharek ([cyrus.huncharek@ndrn.org](mailto:cyrus.huncharek@ndrn.org)) with any questions.

Sincerely,

American Network of Community Options and Resources (ANCOR)  
Association of People Supporting Employment First (APSE)  
The Jewish Federations of North America  
Justice in Aging  
National Disability Institute  
National Disability Rights Network (NDRN)  
National Down Syndrome Congress  
RespectAbility  
TASH  
The Arc of the United States