

Appreciation for Representative Mike Carey

Thank you for:

- Representing Ohio's 15th Congressional District, which includes Franklin County.
- Your work on the Committee and Ways and Means.
- How you listened to current and former foster youth regarding FYI vouchers, and how you referenced Fostering the Future during a November discussion.





OHIO YAB Mission

We exist to be the knowledgeable statewide voice that influences policies and practices that impact youth who have or will experience out of home care.





IMPROVING OUTCOMES AFTER FOSTER CARE.

Ohio foster care youth and alumni are excited to be able to talk with federal decision-makers about:

- **Supports for current and former foster youth**, including Chafee funds, ETV and how they **support pathways to education, employment and economic self-sufficiency**.
- **Barriers faced by current and former foster youth**, including driver's license and education barriers, and how they **undermine pathways to education, employment and economic self-sufficiency**.

Our vision is to connect current and former foster youth with:

Education

K-12 supports leading to high school graduation.

Post-secondary supports, with options including colleges, universities and vocational schools.

Employment

Early employment exposure, access to a bank account, and tips on budgeting.

Awareness of and connection to employment resources, including internships and apprenticeships.

Economic Stability

Inform, support and empower teens in foster care; connect them with resources to break the cycle, such as Chafee, WIOA, and TANF-IL.

Overcome barriers, such as transportation, inconsistent allocation of resources and lack of informing and empowering youth.

Chafee Allocation

Chafee can be used in
many ways to help foster
youth.

States need to have a
sense of urgency about
utilizing this provision to
prepare foster youth for
successful adulthoods.



Chafee Allocation

Increased Population in Need of Chafee Services

1999

Our nation's Chafee funds were relied on to provide independent living preparation for foster youth between ages 16-18.

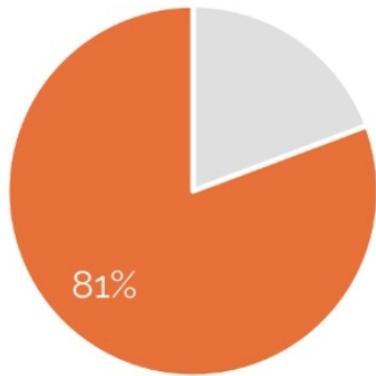
2026

Our nation's Chafee funds are relied upon to serve foster youth between ages 14-23, including ETV vouchers up until age 26.

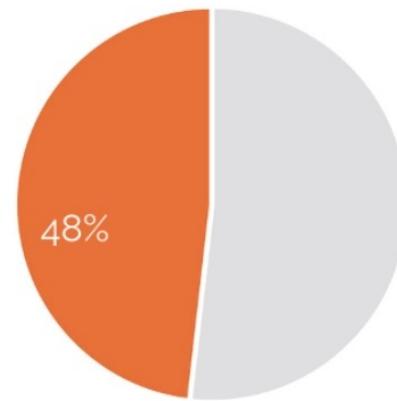


ETV Funds

Most ETV recipients were food insecure in the last year



Almost half have been housing insecure in the last year



ETV is a wonderful resource — but program [eligibility varies by state](#). Ohio's ETV provider recently did a research study about [housing and food insecurities faced by ETV recipients](#). The amount of funding for each student doesn't cover the cost of attendance including room and board. That's why the state of Ohio is currently looking into [tuition waivers](#).

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families



Ohio recently lost its TANF-Independent Living allocation. This happened at the same time that driving requirements were increased.